

## Mexican Peso Crisis Cools Investors' Taste For Emerging Markets

By Alan Friedman

PARIS — With financial markets from Asia to Latin America shuddering from the aftershocks of the Mexican crisis, the world's big money managers have begun taking a hard second look at their holdings in emerging markets everywhere.

Allen Saunders, a fund manager at UBS Private Banking in London, said the global tremors resulting from the Mexican crisis would "take the shine off the emerging markets story for some time to come because people have been reminded again of the volatility of these markets and the currency risk."

But economists said that some of the more dramatic slumps in equity and currency values in recent days — in emerging market countries as diverse as Thailand, Indonesia and South Africa — were more the result of knee-jerk investor reactions than any imminent risk of a worldwide financial crisis.

Michael Bruno, the World Bank's chief

economist, issued a statement on Thursday that was apparently aimed at calming investors.

"While market participants may exhibit some herd instinct, there are no economic or structural reasons for Mexico's problem to become a generalized financial crisis for the region or for the developing countries as a whole," he said.

Also Thursday, Mexico's central bank took a step aimed at shoring up confidence in the battered Mexican peso by agreeing to buy back as much as \$1.5 billion of dollar-linked Treasury bonds held by Mexican banks and securities firms. (Page 9)

Several economists and fund managers noted that, whether Mexico succeeds quickly or not in re-establishing stability, the present situation is very different from either the Mexican debt crisis of 1982 or the Wall Street collapse of 1987.

In each of these cases central banks and finance ministries worried about the risk of

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Chechens picking up free bread Thursday at what was left of a Grozny food store as a guard kept an eye on the street.

## Russia Assails West's Stance And Warns of Risk to Ties

### European Rights Group Barred as Fighting in Chechnya Intensifies

By Fred Hiatt

Washington Post Service

MOSCOW — Russia lashed out Thursday at "inadequate and hasty" criticism from the West of its military operation in Chechnya, saying that such criticism could "destroy" the positive relations Moscow and the West have built recently.

The Foreign Ministry statement also indicated that human-rights observers from the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe would not be welcome until a "later phase" of Russia's operation in the breakaway region.

Russia's angry comments came as the battle in Chechnya intensified again and more reinforcements were sent to the region, ranging from elite Interior Ministry troops from Moscow to marines from Vladivostok in the Far East.

Russian troops rolled into Chechnya on Dec. 11 and since then have been fighting a bloody and destructive war against stubborn opposition from Chechen fighters, who want independence from Russia. As civilian casualties and destruction have mounted, Western criticism has sharpened as well.

A U.S. State Department spokeswoman accused Russia on Wednesday of violating international obligations with its unannounced troop deployments and its attacks on civilians. Politicians in Western Europe have issued far stronger criticisms, and the advocacy group Human Rights Watch/Helsinki accused Russian forces Thursday of showing "utter contempt for civilian lives."

Grigori Karasin, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, responded that "the human tragedy and loss of life" were "practically unavoidable," given the challenge from "illegal armed groups" in Chechnya, a Muslim region 1,600 kilometers (1,000 miles) south of Moscow.

"The alternative — not to counteract the separatist and criminal regime — could lead to a repetition of the Yugoslav scenario in Russia," Mr. Karasin said.

The spokesman said most foreign leaders had shown understanding of Chechnya as being Russia's internal affair, and one that had to be dealt with. But he attacked the "inadequate and hasty reaction" of some political leaders abroad, especially Europeans, who have postponed a trade agreement and suspended consideration of Russia's entry into the Council of Europe.

"Along with a feeling of regret, such rhetoric makes one recall the recent and lamentable past of our relations with the West," he said. "Often we see outdated

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## Asian Authorities Step In To Defend Their Exchanges

By Kevin Murphy

International Herald Tribune

HONG KONG — Heavy selling against currencies in Hong Kong, Thailand and Indonesia spurred monetary authorities across Asia into action Thursday as the aftermath of Mexico's peso debacle shook stock, bond and foreign exchange markets.

A direct market intervention in Hong Kong and strong denials of imminent currency devaluations in Jakarta and Bangkok followed a strong sell-off in Asian stock markets and concerns that hedge-fund speculators were betting against at least two currencies linked to the U.S. dollar.

But in moving to defend their currencies, monetary authorities — in Hong Kong in particular — have prompted fears that local interest rate increases are coming, moves that risk dealing a blow to already bruised confidence in Asian stock markets, analysts said.

The U.S. dollar rose to an 18-month high of 7.7740 Hong Kong dollars, its highest since it touched 7.7790 dollars on June 25, 1993.

"Probably most of it is genuine liquidation," Stuart Gulliver, head of Treasury and Capital Markets with HSBC Markets in Hong Kong, said of the hectic foreign exchange trading Thursday.

In Jakarta, Indonesian equities and currency felt the heat.

"We have no plan to devalue the rupiah despite our debt," said Saleh Afiff, coordinating minister for the economy. Reuters reported.

Mr. Afiff denied rumors that Indonesia, with a large international debt and a currency under pressure in recent days, would follow Mexico by devaluing the rupiah. "We are safe," he said. "Our exchange rate is still competitive."

Indonesian stocks took their biggest one-day plunge in nearly 10 months. The Jakarta Stock Market Composite index fell 8.71 points, to 452.686, just above the 1994 low of 447.00.

Traders said many foreign mutual fund managers were unloading Asian stocks to meet investors' demands.

The exodus comes despite a growing feeling that the region's stocks and bonds are cheap given the strong growth and solid economic fundamentals in most Asian countries.

"These Asian currencies are not ripe for devaluation in any consideration," said Mr. Gulliver. "The speculative story doesn't add up."

In Thailand, stocks closed down 3.13

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## Israelis Shift Focus to the 'Good Life'

By Clyde Haberman

New York Times Service

JERUSALEM — An important generational change is under way in Israel's public life, and with it has come a change in what Israelis care about and demand from their leaders.

Soon, possibly as early as the 1996 elections, political power will shift from the generation of nation-builders to one

born, or at least reared, after Israel was founded in 1948.

Far more than their elders, these Israelis worry about their quality of life and their families' well-being.

It hardly means that they have dispensed with concerns about peace and national security. But people roughly 45 and under are openly less tolerant of Israel's backbreaking taxes and more prepared to criticize the onerous military

reserve duty imposed on them each year.

They are more skeptical about their leaders, more willing to throw them out of office in a flash and less captivated by Zionist folklore, whose once-ironclad truths they are increasingly prepared to see as perhaps embroidered with mythology.

In a sense, says Haim Ramon, who in

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## U.S. and Japan: Low-Key, Little Progress

By David E. Sanger

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — In its businesslike quickness and its low-key style, the meeting this week between President Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama seemed to reflect the administration's battle fatigue in its dealings with Tokyo.

Mr. Clinton's aides insist that he has lost none of his nerve for pressing Japan for major reforms in its economy and major new openings of its markets.

The president expressed confidence that his administration's blitz of recent accords with Tokyo would soon bring down the \$60 billion U.S. trade deficit with Japan.

Wednesday, Clinton aides noted, he pressed Mr. Murayama — a Socialist who abandoned many of his party's principles in a deal last summer that propelled him from obscurity to the prime minister's office — for quick progress in talks over autos and auto parts, which make up more than 60 percent of the trade imbalance.

On Tuesday, the two countries reached an agreement to partly open Japan's financial services markets to greater foreign participation.

In recent weeks, however, several officials close to the negotiations have acknowledged that the White House has lost any hope of speedy changes in Japanese economic policy.

When Mr. Murayama's advance team submitted a draft communiqué last week that would be issued at the end of the meeting, American officials rejected it out of hand because it made no mention of trade or Japan's contribution to the building of nuclear power reactors in North Korea, part of the deal to dismantle the Communist country's nuclear weapons project. But rather than fight, they just decided to issue no communiqué at all.

On Wednesday, Mr. Clinton steered far away from the kinds of comments he made two years and three prime ministers ago, when he told the first Japanese leader who visited him, Kiichi Miyazawa, that broad cooperation "can happen only if we make real progress on the trade deficit."

## A High-Tech Xanadu for Citizen Gates

By Timothy Egan

New York Times Service

SEATTLE — The garage is tunneled into the hillside, with room enough to hold 20 cars. Its roof covered by sod from the Cascade Range and surrounded by a fresh-planted forest of Northwest alders, Batman would blush.

At the bottom of the slope is an estuary, manmade, fed by a small stream into which salmon will swim, procreate and die every fall, according to plan. Nature, not the building code, now governs that portion.

In between is a reception hall big enough to hold 150 people, a waterfall-cum-spa-and-60-foot-long pool, an exercise room paneled with rock from one of the highest peaks of the Pacific Northwest. And everywhere, there are video walls that can be programmed with art to match the attention span of a guest.

This is the future home of Bill Gates, covering nearly five acres (two hectares) of some of the most pampered waterfront property in America, in the suburb of Medina, a 10-minute canoe ride across Lake Washington from Seattle. At just under 40,000 square feet (3,600 square

meters) of interconnected "pavilions," as the builders call them, the software mogul's home-to-be is not a mansion, or even an estate; it's an organism.

The house, whose plans and construction have been avidly watched and chronicled in minute detail, was supposed to have been finished this year. But the date has been pushed back to 1996, and the vision of this high-tech temple continues to change — and with it, its price, originally pegged at \$15 million.

It is now \$30 million and counting, said Mr. Gates's wife, Melinda French, who answered questions about the house via electronic mail through a Gates family spokeswoman.

When it is completed, there will be no "Honey, I'm home" and a footstool-with-

beer reception as Mr. Gates enters after his basic 16-hour day.

Instead, the network of computers will alert the boulder-rimmed hot tub, the video-art walls, the climate controls, the library, the trampoline room and other sections that the master has arrived and expects an evening tailored to his mood.

But that vision is yet to materialize, awaiting the alchemy that will bring together basalt walls, stainless steel roofs, a river of wires and knot-free beams from 500-year-old trees, remilled after they were salvaged from old buildings.

For now Mr. Gates, the Microsoft Co. chairman whose net worth of just under \$10 billion makes him the wealthiest man in the United States remains without a

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## Surgeon Cuts Out, and Nurse Cuts In

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — A British nurse who apparently took over an operation and removed a man's appendix has been suspended, health officials said Thursday.

"It's absolutely amazing — I have never heard of anything like this before," said Christine Hancock of the Royal College of Nursing.

After the surgeon reportedly left the operating room at Treleike hospital in Truro, western England, the nurse cut the man open, removed his appendix and sewed him up, she said. The hospital

would only confirm that the nurse had been suspended.

The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust said that it was investigating the case in Truro, 280 miles (450 kilometers) southwest of London. It declined to comment further. The surgical assistant who is reported to have performed the appendectomy was identified as Valerie Tomlinson.

The patient is doing fine but Unison, the health workers' union, has advised him to get a lawyer and has called for an inquiry into the incident last month. (Reuters, AP)

### Kiosk



ELEVATED MOOD IN MANILA — Women in miters waiting for the Pope to pass. He joked about his health and mixed with welcomers. Page 2.

## U.S. Soldier Dies in Haiti Gun Battle

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (Reuters) — A U.S. soldier was killed, another was wounded and a Haitian was killed during an exchange of gunfire at a tollbooth in Haiti on Thursday, a U.S. military spokeswoman said.

The soldier was the first to be killed since U.S. troops began their occupation of Haiti last September.

The military said a group of Special Forces soldiers was overseeing tollbooth operations when a pickup truck with two passengers stopped but refused to pay the toll. After being asked to get out of the vehicle, the driver emerged brandishing a weapon. He shot one soldier in the chest and the other in the arm, prompting the exchange.

### Dole Closer to '96 Run

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bob Dole, the Senate majority leader, moved closer to a 1996 presidential run Thursday by establishing a fund-raising committee. The Kansas Republican said he would make a final decision by early April. Papers creating the Dole for President Exploratory Committee were filed with the Federal Election Commission. Such committees are frequently used as a precursor to a formal candidacy.

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Jordan.....JD 1.50	U.A.E.....5.50 Dirh
Lebanon.....US\$1.50	U.S. Mil. (Eur.) \$1.10



## WORLD BRIEFS

Under sultry, tropical skies, the Pope landed in Manila on Thursday after a 12-hour overnight flight from

Speaking to reporters aboard his plane, he appeared rosy-checked, robust and spry — more so, at least, than he has for months — fielding questions in English, Italian, German, Spanish and French.

After the upcoming trip, he said, "Whoever is still alive will see." He meant it as a joke. He went on to lay out plans for visits to Belgium and Slovakia and Africa and Austria, and maybe Berlin and America.

[Police swooped in on one man in the crowd who was carrying a handgun

But the visit has many other undertones. The Pope's powerful representative here, Cardinal Jaime Sin, is at loggerheads with the government over its support for birth control among the Philippines' 65 million people, four-fifths of whom are baptized Catholics.

## Simpson Abuse Allegations Dropped

"By crossing these out," Miss Bodin said, "we're not commenting on the truth of these incidents or the untruth of them." The material includes entries from Nicole Brown Simpson's diary and letters Mr. Simpson wrote her.

## Mitterrand Inaugurates 'City of Music'

The work of the architect Christian de Portzamparc, it is conceived as a self-contained village and is home to 2,000 musicians and dancers of the national conservatory. It also will feature worldwide traditional and popular music.

Mr. Scalfaro has rejected demands by Mr. Berlusconi to call for immediate elections. Mr. Berlusconi resigned Dec. 22 to avoid facing no-confidence motions by opposition groups and his rebellious government partner, the Northern League.

The refugees are among about 30,000 who fled Cuba in ramshackle boats and rafts last summer after the Cuban government said it would not stop them from leaving. Havana later reimposed controls under an agreement with the United States.

Shop owners in Harare, Zimbabwe, will pay for the deployment of police reservists to combat car thefts, mugging, begging and harassment, mainly by street children, which have driven many shoppers from the city center. (AFP)

reopen the airport in the next few days. (ATT)

"The secretary accepted, and there's nothing about his role that's changed."

## Algeria O

**Indian Army and Air Force units before leaving for Washington on Saturday, will be fol-**

But there were hints in Mr. Perry's remarks in New Delhi that the United States is looking beyond its old military rela-

since May 19, 1993, when a SAM Airlines Boeing 727 crashed into a mountain, killing 132 people.

A UN spokesman, Paul Risley, said government soldiers began blockading the Tuzla airfield Wednesday.

gota, 610 kilometers (380 miles) south of Cartagena. All 53 people aboard were Colombian, authorities said.

Mr. Fenby, who has run The Observer since 1993, is leaving the job "by mutual agreement,"

A UN spokesman, Paul Risle, said government soldiers began blockading the Tuzla airfield Wednesday, cut telephone

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# THE AMERICAS / LEARNING CURVE

## 6 Years or 12 Years? A Fight Shapes Up Over Term Limits

By Katharine Q. Seelye  
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The new members of the week-old 104th Congress, who rode into town on a wave of anti-Congress sentiment, have found themselves at odds with longer-serving members over how long they should stay.

The House speaker, Newt Gingrich, has aligned himself with the old guard among those who favor limiting congressional terms. They support a bill that allows House members to stay in office for 12 years, even though a Republican poll shows that voters overwhelmingly favor 6-year limits.

The six-year limits are also the choice of most of the rebellious band of freshmen, many of whom campaigned on term limits.

Mr. Gingrich, who is beginning his 9th term and his 17th year in the House, has always favored the 12-year limit, and he said Wednesday that he would vote against a six-year limit when bills on the subject come to the floor, probably in late March.

"A six-year learning curve is just too short," Mr. Gingrich said. "I don't know that I'm all that smart, but as hard as I worked at it, I didn't get it in the first six years."

In answer to a question, Mr. Gingrich said it was not hypocritical of him to support term limits for others that would amount to about half the time he had already accumulated.

"Is it inappropriate for somebody to suggest they favor a tax increase and not voluntarily send the money?" he asked. "You can favor public policy without having to be a martyr."

He spoke Wednesday at a crowded news conference where dozens of House members, most of them Republicans, demonstrated their support for the concept of term limits, papering over for the moment their deep divisions over the length of their terms.

Before leaving, 53 Republicans and 6 Democrats signed large posters that committed them to adoption of term limits of unspecified duration.

In a deeply ambivalent statement, Representative Richard K. Armey, Republican of Texas, the new majority leader, said his enthusiasm for term limits had not waned, "but it still saddens me to take this position."

"This is a tool that I think will do for the Congress exactly what I did with a pitchfork for my dad's stable," he said.

The display on Wednesday only confirmed for cynics the ways of Washington.

"They say they have to be pragmatic, that six years wouldn't pass," said Paul Jacob, executive director of U.S. Term Limits, a group formed to support six-year limits. "That's

like a mother saying, 'Clean up your room,' and the kid saying, 'Sorry, we just don't have the votes.'"

"They are what is standing in the way of it being three terms," he added.

Representative Sam Brownback, a freshman Republican from Kansas, campaigned on 10-year limits but is supporting the bill for 12-year limits. He said he would vote for whatever term-limit bill passed.

Of the freshman class, he said, "If 12 is what it takes to get it, they'll go with that." At the same time, the Republican pollsters who reported during last year's campaign that voters vastly preferred six-year limits seemed to back off their findings.

Luntz Research found in September that 82 percent of Americans favored six years, with only 14 percent favoring 12 years. But Steven Wagner, a pollster for the firm, suggested that this finding should not be taken literally.

"As we know in retrospect, people were looking for change," he said. "Term limits are popular, and they picked the shorter of two options. But I think voters will be happy with whatever compromise is worked out."

## Kennedy Raises a Liberal Cry

Senator Urges Democrats to Stick to Party's Root Principles

By Dan Balz  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Outlining a strategy to bring his party back to power, Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts has challenged fellow Democrats to adhere to their principles, stand up for President Bill Clinton and not try to become "pale carbon copies" of the new Republican majority in Congress.

"The caricatures of us by the other side will be ineffective as long as we vigorously oppose them and expose them, instead of sheepishly acquiescing," Mr. Kennedy told a National Press Club luncheon audience. "If Democrats run for cover, if we become pale carbon copies of the opposition and try to act like Republicans, we will lose — and deserve to lose."

Although much of his speech Wednesday was devoted to attacking the Republicans' new agenda, Mr. Kennedy saved his toughest words for some of his fellow Democrats.

"Blaming Bill Clinton by some in our party comes with ill grace from those who abandoned him on critical votes in the last Congress, then ran from him in the campaign and then lost, often by wide margins," he said. "Now they come forward to advocate a strategy discredited by their own defeats."

Mr. Kennedy said he defeated the Republican Mitt Romney last fall in his most difficult reelection campaign by sticking to the party's traditional values and issues, and he said Democrats would be rewarded in 1996 if they confronted Republicans.

"In the wake of this election, Democrats need to fight back for our beliefs, not turn our back on the Clinton administration," he said, adding,

"As Democrats, we can win, but only if we stand for something."

Mr. Kennedy accused the Republicans of a "strategy of obstruction, distortion and massive personal attack on the president and the first lady" and said their agenda would result in deep cuts in Medicare and Medicaid and "lavish tax cuts" for the wealthy.

Ten years ago, Mr. Kennedy used a speech at Hofstra University in New York to urge Democrats to move toward the center following electoral defeat. This time, he defended the liberalism that is synonymous with his name.

He outlined a legislative agenda for the party designed to protect the poor and the disadvantaged and to woo back middle-class voters who flocked to the Republicans last fall.

At the top of the agenda, Mr. Kennedy said, should be health-care reform, the issue that Mr. Clinton hoped would bring Democrats electoral success in 1994 but that proved to be part of their undoing.

The senator said it was "a total misreading of the election" to suggest that the issue was dead. Mr. Kennedy admitted that Democrats "made serious mistakes" in their health-care fight last year but said the biggest miscalculation was failing to bring the issue to a vote.

"I believe voters would have rallied to Democrats in 1994 if we had gone down fighting as hard as we could for health reform," he declared. "Instead we engaged in a search for a phantom compromise that our opponents never intended to achieve."

Mr. Kennedy said Hillary Rodham Clinton had accepted more than her share of the blame for the demise of health care reform.



Newt Gingrich showing his party's "Contract With America," which calls for term limits.

## New Crisis for a California City Floods Follow Fires That Denuded the Hills

By Seth Mydans  
New York Times Service

ALTADENA, California — From disaster to cleanup, this is a city that lives the Southern California cycle. The same range of hills whose beauty attracts residents also threatens them with the brushfires, mud slides and floods that are a part of life here.

Just over a year ago, 12 of the 16 houses on Kindair Drive were destroyed in a wave of wildfires that swept the region. Vicky Wade's house was one of those that survived the unpredictable flames.

"My awnings burned, but not my house," she said.

But survival also meant danger: The bare and blackened hillside that rises behind her house now threatens flash floods. Now has come the night that Mrs. Wade and her neighbors — all but two of whom decided to rebuild — had been preparing for ever since the fires in late 1993.

A new retaining wall just behind her house helps divert water. Elsewhere, residents and city workers erected berms and runoff channels, planted foliage and cleared away brush.

Still, like much of the city, she was awake through the night Tuesday, battling the rushing water.

"I've been vacuuming up the water nonstop for 24 hours," she said, looking up at the sheer

hillside. "All night I set the alarm and slept an hour, vacuumed an hour and a half, slept an hour, vacuumed an hour and a half."

As brown runoff from the nearby hillsides continued Wednesday to course through the streets of this city just north of Los Angeles, anxiety mounted as well.

"Nobody wants to let their guard down because we still have rain ahead," said Linda Powell, director of a homeowners' group. "We have only made it through one storm. This is Southern California. We are always going to have earthquakes, and nobody is safe from the possibility of a mud slide."

[The storm has killed at least eight people and caused millions of dollars in damage, The Associated Press reported.]

[Some areas got up to 16 inches (40 centimeters) of rain in the past nine days, twice the normal total for the entire season. Forecasters warned that a weaker storm lurking offshore was poised to strike this weekend.]

On Wednesday, with a relative respite from the downpours, the Altadena Hardware Store was bustling as brief flashes of sunshine alternated with sudden showers.

The store manager, Don Thomas, said people had been

coming in all day, looking for help in pumping out their basements and buying up plastic sheeting for the loose, muddy hillsides faster than he could stock it.

Throughout the day, convoys of work trucks labored to keep flood channels clear. Helicopters circled the hillsides to spot sudden runoffs, and the sheriff's department deployed four-wheel-drive vehicles in the hillside area in case of emergency.

"We've got to keep in mind that even if it stops raining, it won't stop flowing here," said Lieutenant Ralph Martin of the local sheriff's station. "We've got dozens of miles of forest above us and the water will keep coming down through the canyons for several days."

He described his city as emblematic of the region's recent history.

"Unfortunately, we have a very active emergency operations center," he said. "We've got a lot of experience not only from the earthquake but from the fires, and of course the riots." The anniversary of last year's Northridge earthquake, which took more than 50 lives, falls next Tuesday.

For all the readiness, he said, one aspect of the storm had surprised him.

"I've got to admit that a lot of people were more prepared than we anticipated," he said.



## POLITICAL NOTES



### Gingrich Met Media Tycoon

WASHINGTON — The new speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, acknowledged Thursday he met the media tycoon Rupert Murdoch amid an uproar over his \$4.5 million book publishing deal with a firm Mr. Murdoch owns. Spokesmen for Mr. Murdoch and Mr. Gingrich gave differing dates for the meeting. Critics of the Republican speaker suggest the arrangement creates a possible conflict of interest.

Mr. Gingrich's spokesman, Tony Blankley, said the Georgian met Mr. Murdoch on Dec. 28. "It was a 10-minute courtesy call," he said.

But a publicist for the media tycoon said that the men met Nov. 28, before the book deal became public.

"According to Mr. Murdoch, at no time during his meeting with Mr. Gingrich was the subject of the book transaction raised," a statement from Mr. Murdoch's News Corp. said.

The House Democratic whip, David E. Bonior of Michigan, said a special investigator should be named to probe "ethical problems" posed by the meeting.

### Mrs. Quayle Fires Fusillade

WASHINGTON — Well, so much for Republican unity and the era of good feelings. With former Vice President Dan Quayle convalescing after having his appendix removed last week, his wife, Marilyn, replaced him at a speech in Hammond, Indiana, and immediately

began sniping at some of Mr. Quayle's likely opponents for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination.

According to an Associated Press account of the lunch, Mrs. Quayle was particularly uncharitable toward Senator Phil Gramm of Texas, who had just won a Louisiana presidential straw poll. "His fund-raising has not met expectations," she was quoted as saying. Mrs. Quayle also said that Mr. Gramm "is not very well thought of in the Senate, even among Republicans themselves."

She dismissed the early organizing efforts by Mr. Gramm and former Education Secretary Lamar Alexander, who will formally announce their candidacies later this winter. She said the two men apparently believe "if they buy up all the good campaign operatives and are able to win the first couple of primaries, they can coast into the convention." (W/P)

### Falling Out Over Welfare

WASHINGTON — Negotiations over the future of the nation's welfare programs have been slowed by the emergence of deep philosophical disagreements between Republican governors and Republican members of Congress.

In general, participants in the negotiations said, the governors want the fewest possible restrictions on their use of federal money to help the poor pay for food, shelter, clothing and child care. But the members of Congress say they want to regulate use of the money to alter the behavior of welfare recipients.

The two sides agree that the states should have much more flexibility in

designing and operating welfare programs. They also agree that each state should receive a lump sum of federal money for purposes defined by Washington in only the broadest terms.

But they disagree on many details, including whether states should be allowed to cut their own spending on welfare. "What some of the governors want is for us to put the federal money on a stump in the middle of a forest in the dead of night," said an aide to the new House Republican leaders. (NYT)

### Unpopular in the Provinces

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton's choice of Senator Christopher J. Dodd to head the Democratic National Committee has set off an open rebellion among some state party leaders who argue that he is too liberal and that he cannot effectively represent the interests of his home state of Connecticut and lead the national party at the same time.

"Some of us have severe reservations with Chris Dodd," said Gary Hinde, chairman of the Delaware Democratic Party. (NYT)

### Quote/Unquote

Representative Charles H. Taylor, Republican of North Carolina, a registered forester and tree farmer, referring to a suggestion that National Forest Service lands could be managed more efficiently by an environmental organization: "Some of the things you've been saying make it seem as if you've been smoking a little funny weed somewhere." (W/P)

### Away From Politics

• The police captured the third of the five convicted killers who tunneled their way out of a Florida prison last week, leaving two men still on the run. The arrest of Hector Rivas, 32, near central Miami came less than one day after authorities captured his fellow inmate, Florencio Alvarez, 39, at a homeless camp west of the city. A third inmate, Armando Junco, was with Mr. Alvarez and was killed by the police during the capture. (Reuters)

• A Miami bridge tender mistakenly raised a drawbridge while a pregnant woman was walking across and, sitting in his soundproof booth, was unaware of her screams as she dangled 50 feet (15 meters) above the sidewalk. The 25-year-old woman, whose identity

was not released, tumbled to the ground when her strength gave out. She lost the 6-month-old fetus after the fall and remained in critical condition. Triangle Maintenance, the company that operates the bridge for the state, suspended the bridge tender, Willie Barnes, without pay. (AP)

• A small plane attempting an emergency landing crashed into an office building near the Augusta, Georgia, airport, killing all four people on board and critically injuring two people in the building. A Federal Aviation Administration spokeswoman in Atlanta said the plane, a twin-engine Cessna 414, had taken off from Swainsboro, Georgia, en route to Columbia, South Carolina. (AP)

### Colombia Denies Big Jets Used in Cocaine Traffic

New York Times Service

BOGOTA — Colombian authorities deny that the Caribbean island of San Andrés serves as a haven for drug traffickers and that big jets are transporting cocaine to Mexico.

A New York Times article this week quoted U.S. officials as saying the Colombian authorities were doing nothing about planes loaded with cocaine taking off from Colombian territory.

It said smugglers were buying old passenger jets, taking out the seats and using the planes to fly huge amounts of the drug into Mexico.

A spokeswoman for the Colombian government said Wednesday that "small planes, not large ones" had been detected leaving San Andrés.

She added that government officials had met on the island last September to discuss drug trafficking.

"It was Defense Minister Fernando Botero who asked the Mexican and United States governments for help," she said.

## N.Y. Sends Killer for Oklahoma Execution

New York Times Service

ALBANY, New York — Thomas Grasso, the double-murderer who has demanded to be executed and whose case became an issue in New York's gubernatorial campaign, was transferred Wednesday from New York to Oklahoma to await execution.

Coming 11 days after George E. Pataki took office, Mr. Grasso's extradition fulfilled one of the new Republican governor's top campaign pledges and starkly symbolized the political transformation in Albany.

Oklahoma officials said Mr. Grasso could be executed by lethal injection within 60 days. But the timetable for his execution must be set by Oklahoma's top appellate court, and it could be delayed if legal challenges are filed by outside groups.

Lawyers representing anti-death-penalty groups said, however, that there seemed to be few legal mechanisms to block Mr. Grasso's execution as long as Mr. Grasso maintains his desire to die.

Mr. Pataki, who also has pledged to make New York the 38th state to restore the death penalty, said Mr. Grasso's departure was the fulfillment of a significant campaign promise. Throughout last year's campaign against Mario M. Cuomo, Mr. Pataki used the Grasso case to illustrate the Democratic governor's opposition to the death penalty, even holding a news conference in front of the State Island boardhouse where Mr. Grasso killed one of his victims.

"Today we have accomplished what we promised," Mr. Pataki said. "Thomas Grasso will face the death penalty for his brutal crimes."

## AIDS Research Focuses on Viral 'Battle'

By Gina Kolata  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — New findings about how the AIDS virus behaves in the body help to explain why all drugs tried until now have been ineffective. And it casts new light on the reaction of the body's immune system to the invader.

Infection by HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus, has been thought of as a gradual process in which the virus acts slowly to undermine the immune system. In fact the virus and the immune system engage in a pitched battle from the very start of infection, according to new findings published Thursday.

Each day millions of virus particles are produced and millions are killed. But the immune system's losses are also staggering, with up to 1 billion infected cells dying and being replaced each day, the new findings show. This battle continues to the end, with the immune system losing just a little ground each day.

The findings come from the laboratories of two top AIDS researchers, Dr. David Ho, director of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center in New York, and Dr. George M. Shaw of the University of Alabama in

Birmingham. They were published in *Nature*, the London-based scientific journal.

One clue that led to the findings was new drugs that all but stop the AIDS virus in its tracks. By giving these drugs to infected patients and measuring how quickly the virus population died and then recovered, the researchers were able to calculate the dynamics of infection more precisely.

The AIDS virus is known to make many slightly different or mutated copies of itself, raising the chances that at least one of these mutations will be resistant to any drug.

The rapid turnover of virus, now known to take place explains why the resistant forms can so quickly predominate in the body after a drug has been

administered. The researchers found that the new drugs could destroy 99 percent of the virus in the body, yet resistant strains of virus appeared within days.

The new picture of an AIDS virus infection, scientists say, means that entire research enterprises have gone down the wrong path.

It also suggests new strategies

for combating the virus: The battle between the immune system and the virus is so close that any drug that weakens the virus and gives the immune system a slight edge might in principle be enough to tip the balance.

"We now have some real values to shoot at to try to make an impact on the disease," Dr. Ho said.



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## Future Peacekeeping

United Nations peacekeeping missions have hit hard times. Since the end of the Cold War, the use of lightly armed soldiers to police cease-fires or monitor elections has given way to ambitious attempts to impose peace on hostile forces determined to keep fighting, as in Somalia or Bosnia. The result has been a loss of political support for UN peacekeeping, particularly in Washington.

The Clinton administration now shies away from involvement in operations not commanded by an American, so that U.S. troops will not be dependent on others for relief or evacuation as they were in Somalia. Congressional Republicans go further, proposing tight legal restrictions on the use of American forces and opposing participation in the UN force that will soon take over in Haiti, even though it will be commanded by an American.

Rethinking and retrenchment are in order. Last week, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali called for scaled down expectations and more limited missions. But if that can be accomplished, UN peacekeeping can serve American interests and contribute to global peace.

The use of major powers' troops for

enforcement operations under a UN flag, like the British, French and Russians in Bosnia or the Americans in Somalia, has not worked well and should not be repeated. Enforcement missions require the kind of firepower that only major powers can supply, but these powers do not easily subordinate their armies to UN command. There should be a shift back toward more limited objectives like policing cease-fires. These missions should be carried out by specialized forces from smaller and neutral states operating under United Nations command.

When major enforcement missions are clearly warranted, they should be assigned to the armies of major military powers, under Security Council mandate but national combat command. This will be possible only where there is a consensus on the Security Council and where an appropriate country is willing to undertake the mission — for example, the French last year in Rwanda.

UN peacekeeping does what it can do very well. It makes no sense to continue eroding its credibility by asking it to do what it cannot.

— THE NEW YORK TIMES

## Tenure in Question

For many years tenure was the great sacred cow of American academia, hailed as the guarantor of academic freedom and long-term institutional stability. Although tenure itself is still solidly rooted in most of higher education, the days of its status as unquestioned good are gone. If a symbol were needed of the moment it ended, it might be Dec. 29, when the eminent Yale literature professor Harold Bloom observed in passing, in answer to a question during an appearance on television, that tenure might better be abolished.

The professor was making not a considered policy proposal but a rhetorical point connected to a question about term limits for government officials. Still, the attention the comment sparked in academic circles reflects a growing unhappiness among not just outside critics of academia but also administrators trying to rein in costs — and, not least, among the hordes of young scholars hopelessly bottlenecked at the bottom of a sluggishly moving economy where many fields see only one or two good job openings in the country per year. Professor Bloom is not the only voice that has been heard wondering whether tenure might not be some better way to safeguard the benefits that tenure affords while easing the distorting effect it has on much of the academic economy.

Tenure's current status dates from the post-McCarthy era and was based on fears that professors were uniquely vulnerable to job pressure because of their political views — and uniquely in need of protection so as to be able to pursue their teaching and research free of political interference or reprisal. This idea, in turn, harks back to a much older image, that of the cloistered, monkish scholar pursuing his labors for decades, safely

insulated from the pressures of the outside world. The image has its nostalgic appeal, but it is a long way from reality on most campuses these days.

The absence of pressure on tenured scholars to teach redoubles the burden on younger, non-tenured or, interestingly, non-tenure-track staff who are hired as temporary labor because no permanent jobs are likely to open up. The annual Modern Language Association conference last week was occasion for the venting of that unhappiness among young scholars who complain that they can get only short-term and nomadic teaching work. Schools that move in this direction can often save a great deal of money. Some put the level of such part-timers as high as 40 percent.

Meanwhile, the ivory tower quality of even the tenured population has little in common with the ideal anymore; among some academics, such as those on the faculties of professional schools, it is fashionable as well as profitable to engage heavily in outside consulting work, while the star system makes the most visible scholars skip around in a variety of non-cloistered activities that bring prominence to the school and the department.

As for academic freedom, the much lamented decline in campus civility and the rise in hair-trigger political sensitivity has led to a situation where, once a political storm blows up, tenure does not always afford absolute protection anyway. As the pressure on universities increases and academic life grows less livable, the temptation to reform some of tenure's glaring weirdnesses grows. Adjustment should not be seen as an attack on academia from outside but as a way in which academia can reform and renew itself.

— THE WASHINGTON POST

## Other Comment

### India's Economic Crossroads

Indian reform has reached a critical juncture. The bloom has come off the Chinese investment rose. Broken contracts, unpaid bills and rampant piracy have introduced a new sobriety about this market, and many investors are searching for greener pastures. As the world's second-largest potential giant, India naturally is getting a closer look.

Certainly India has its advantages. The Bombay Stock Exchange has been around for more than a century. The rule of law is well-entrenched, if cumbersome. Indian democracy, moreover, is a rugged creature. Having survived years of assassinations and socialism, it leaves foreign investors in a good position to judge the worst-case political risk. The same cannot be said of China.

The problem is that India has embraced capitalism with only one arm. While Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao defends his economic liberalization policy as "the best option available," Deng Xiaoping enthusiastically declares that "to get rich is glorious." Even though investment was down in China in 1994, it was still some \$27.9 billion — dwarfing the \$4.5 billion India has received since Mr. Rao's reforms began four years ago. Investors will be watching closely to see whether India takes advantage of China's missteps.

— Far Eastern Economic Review (Hong Kong)

### The American Burden

One can understand that many Americans feel American money should not

be spent, nor American lives endangered, by accepting the burden that history has thrust upon the United States as the only surviving superpower. Yet Americans now have a second rendezvous with history: to bring peace to the world. This means direct involvement in Bosnia with NATO and the UN. Only when the United States becomes actively involved will the war in Bosnia be stopped — not by martial action but by political and economic means.

We therefore call on Americans to rally behind President Clinton's foreign policy. We dare to call on Americans to vote in 1996 for a president who accepts that America and Europe are united in our world. America must help solve the problems of the free world wherever they occur. But Europe must prove to America that it understands why America assumed this great historic task and must help to carry the burden.

— Yekutiel Hiel Federmann, writing in *The Hornet* (Jerusalem).

### Washington Tightrope Act

Newt Gingrich has promised an era totally different from the past. The latest move to reform the U.S. House of Representatives should be praised. But Republicans will need to seek compromise. And to stop voters drifting away from the Democratic Party the Clinton administration will have no choice but to accept proposals for smaller government. Meanwhile, if Mr. Clinton tries to gain popularity by placing priority on domestic policies, he will disappoint other countries.

— Yonjuri Shimbu (Tokyo).

## Russia's Advance to Normalcy Can Do Without Yeltsin

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — In the earliest, heady days of "glasnost," I asked an ecstatic Russian editor where he wanted change to go. Warily, because he had no trust for theories or ideas, he said with an embarrassed smile, "We want a normal country." Now, nearly a decade later, the Soviet Union and the Communist Party have collapsed. There has been vast change, but Russia is still far from a normal country. Russians are no longer sure what "normal" should mean, and how desirable it is.

Alessandra Stanley of The New York Times reports that the holiday season brought nostalgia among Moscovites for the long, crowded, intensely warm evenings around the kitchen table in the "old days." "When nothing was permitted, only relationships could really flourish," she wrote. Now, many people are better off but they are too busy pursuing careers and enterprise to spend time cultivating friendships. Forgetting the privations, they feel a serious loss.

That should not be surprising. Adversity, danger, fear do sharpen the senses and heighten appreciation of what is good about life. They bind people in a way that opportunity and mundane satisfactions do not. It's why old soldiers feel close when they reminisce.

But the doubts about normality and what it should be show how deep is the

emotional, as well as social, economic and political, trouble for Russians as they go through their painful transformation.

It was always clear that Boris Yeltsin was going to be a transitional figure in a long process already punctuated by spectacular dramas. It is becoming evident that he can't see it through to completion.

The argument over whether he is personally responsible for the policy and the orders that have turned Chechnya into a raging, criminal folly, or whether he has been too weak to resist manipulation by evil advisers, is irrelevant. In one case he is to blame. In the other he serves no useful purpose.

He has lost the confidence of those eager to press ahead with democracy and economic reform. He will never be trusted by those opposed to these ideas, although they may retain him as a figurehead so long as convenient.

Deliberately, as some claim, or by gross miscalculation, the war against Chechnya has set the whole Russian Federation back in vital ways. It has already added a billion dollars, maybe much more, to the heavy budget deficit, endangering agreements with international lenders and investors. Inflation is mounting again.

According to the Russian Research Center at Harvard, careful compilers of the best available information, the economy was still plunging downward in any case, not stabilizing as the optimists believed. Industrial production in the first 10 months of 1994 was down 22 percent from the same period in 1993. Agriculture and cattle stocks are still declining. There has been next to no land reform. Less than 300,000 live on private farms, producing 7 percent of the harvest, and many who tried it on their own have given up.

The major Western countries are standing by their support for Mr. Yeltsin, although it is getting harder for them to swallow and to justify to their publics. Chechnya is not the only issue, although the most flagrant. There is friction on NATO, on ex-Yugoslavia, on Iraq, among others. Already last fall in Budapest, Mr. Yeltsin threatened a "cold peace" in East-West relations.

Just a thought of the Cold War and how much it cost the West (in lives as well as money, wars in Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, others fueled by East-West confrontation) makes clear how much is at stake in whether Russia is a democratic, friendly power or not.

As for Chechnya, the precedents of Puerto Rico and Quebec separatism give a hint of how democratic countries

can cope with threats to their territorial integrity. Those are more reasonable comparisons than the unconscionable parallel drawn to America's civil war provoked by slavery.

It may still be possible for Moscow and Grozny to find a tolerable solution, but only after enough time has passed for a cooling of passions. It seems impossible, given his personal fury at defiance, for Boris Yeltsin to be the man to do it.

Grigori Yavlinsky, the young economist who wrote the reform program that Mikhail Gorbachev rejected and who is now head of the opposition Yabloko bloc, has called for Mr. Yeltsin's resignation. It is of the utmost importance at this stage that constitutional procedure be respected. A coup would be disaster.

Under the current constitution, there is no vice president. If Mr. Yeltsin resigns, say, for health reasons, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin would become acting president, obliged to call elections within three months. Mr. Yeltsin would keep his place in history as Russia's first freely elected president. And he would free his dedication to patriotism and democracy at a time when his country so badly needs advance to normalcy.

If he waits to be toppled, that hope and more could be broken.

© Flora Lewis

## Russia's Behavior, Not Yeltsin's Survival, Is the Main Concern

By William Pfaff

PARIS — Moscow's fiasco in the Caucasus is in Washington's as well. The Clinton administration, like the Bush administration before it, has bound the interests and commitments of the United States to the success of Boris Yeltsin's government in Moscow, so that Mr. Yeltsin's failure is necessarily Washington's failure.

It is difficult to understand how Washington can repeatedly make this error of hanging the national interest upon the success of some foreign favorite.

It is a policy of hubris, certainly, expression of a conviction that Washington's support to an individual politician in another country makes a decisive difference for that politician. It is a hubris which holds that the American government has a sufficiently subtle knowledge of the Russian scene to make discriminating judgments among those who have or seek power in there.

And it is a hubris which can, as here, produce the opposite of what it intends. The official Russian government newspaper, *Rossiyskaya Gazeta*, wrote last week that

thanks to the controversy over Chechnya, Russia now is "disentangled from Washington's bondage" and free to make itself a superpower again.

American policy was intended to support democracy in Russia. Because Mr. Yeltsin seemed at the moment the most plausible defender of democratic values, the policy was turned into a policy of support for Mr. Yeltsin.

Once the commitment was made, it was continued even when Mr. Yeltsin did things that democrats do not ordinarily do, such as carry out a military assault on the Russian Parliament. It continues now — halfheartedly — while the Russian army attacks the citizens of what Russia maintains is one of its component republics.

It obviously is in the interest of America that democracy succeed in Russia. To recognize Mr. Yeltsin as the country's popularly elected leader and a plausible defender of democracy follows from that perception of interest. But Washington's commitment should have been to the values

and institutions of democracy in Russia, whoever the president might be. By making Mr. Yeltsin the focus and principal beneficiary of American policy, the United States committed itself to a man rather than to a value.

Democracy's success in Russia is not in any case the primordial interest of the United States with respect to that country. The principal American concern should be that Russia's international conduct be peaceful, unthreatening, respectful of international law and the international order. That Russia should also be a democracy is all the better, but that is not essential.

Democracies can have constructive and correct relations with countries which are not democracies — a very good thing, since there are a lot more non-democracies than democracies. The argument must be heard in Mr. Clinton's Washington (as in neoconservative Washington) that democracy and peace are essentially linked — that you can't have one without the other — is so much cant.

America's concern is with how Russia acts in the world. It doesn't want to be threatened, and its interest is that Russia's neighbors not be made insecure or threatened either, since threats to them could provoke violence into which NATO and the United States could easily be drawn.

One should not exaggerate the danger in the present situation. What has happened in Chechnya has actually brought out a formidable democratic opposition in Russia to what Mr. Yeltsin and his advisers are doing.

The army itself has split; high officers have condemned the attack on Grozny, or refused to take part in it. The press has shown robust independence despite the government's efforts to control it. This episode could prove a triumph for democratic forces in Russia rather than for those of repression, with whom President Yeltsin seems to have linked his future.

Washington must now make it plain that the United States sees its future relations with Russia in terms of how Russia acts. It should make unmistakably plain that it is committed to the integ-

## Mexico's Financial Crisis Is Political, and the Remedy Is Democracy

By Carlos Fuentes

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's financial crisis is really a political crisis.

The economic reasons for the debacle are clear. In the wake of the North American Free Trade Agreement, the Salinas administration opened trade barriers. Imports shot way above exports, until currency reserves dwindled from a high of \$30 billion to a mere \$6 billion, and going fast. The economy became beholden to foreign investment to sustain the peso's value and pay for expanding imports.

But foreign investment was mostly in the stock market and speculation. Only 15 percent was destined for the real economy: building plants, higher employment, higher productivity. As soon as investors realized that the peso's value was supported by nothing real, a crisis of confidence developed. Capital fled. Mexico could no longer pay for its imports, and the peso was devalued.

It is a recurring story. At the end

of each of their six-year terms, Presidents Luis Echeverría Alvarez (1976), José López Portillo (1982) and Miguel de la Madrid (1988) had to devalue, leaving a more impoverished country than they had found. Each man bit the bullet, took harsh measures and sacrificed his popularity so that the incoming president could begin with a clean slate and a measure of hope. President Carlos Salinas broke this golden rule of Mexican politics.

First, in an election year, he postponed the bitter decisions until after the August election.

Then his own personal agenda interfered. Mr. Salinas wishes to head the World Trade Organization, successor to GATT, and was worried that an economic crisis at home would bury his candidacy. Ernesto Zedillo, then president-elect, urged him to devalue the peso by mid-November. Mr. Salinas was not swayed, and saddled

the incoming head of state with the burden of devaluation, loss of authority and lack of popularity.

Yet, I insist, the problem is political more than economic. None of this would have happened if two terms that are common in U.S. public law, "accountability" and "checks and balances," also had currency in Mexico. As a matter of fact, they are not even translatable into Spanish.

As Mexico goes from one traumatic succession to another, it is obvious that the vast powers and the margin of discretion of the executive are the root of the problem. The president acts outside the provinces of accountability and without checks and balances.

Furthermore, he governs with an ever smaller circle of friends and "technicians," many of them Ivy League graduates for whom the economy happens on a blackboard, not to real people. These are elite groups more and more

divorced from public opinion, real information and legislative oversight. They promise the Adam Smith definition of economics, the science of human happiness, and end up with Carlyle's pessimistic appraisal: the dismal science.

If we cannot have presidential succession without national trauma in Mexico, it simply means that the system which more or less functioned between 1934 and 1968, offering development and social peace without democratic freedoms, is now over.

It must be replaced by a modern democratic system in tune with the realities of a nation with 90 million people, a diversified economy, a vigorous middle class, an amazing cultural continuity — and 40 million human beings living in poverty.

Mr. Salinas played with the Gorbachev Ghost — if you have economic reform (perestroika) along with political reform (glasnost), you end up like the former U.S.S.R., divided, diminished and on your back.

This bogey should now be dispelled. Mexico must take the decisive step toward full democracy. Its government and parties should meet very soon and reach a contract for Mexico along the lines of the agreements made at the Moncloa Palace, in 1977, which allowed Spain to travel, without shocks, on the road from dictatorship to democracy.

There are 10 commandments for Mexican democracy.

First is electoral reform. This includes the consecration of alternation in power, an independent electoral organism and clear rules on party access to funding and the media. Mexico

## Go for Chemical Disarmament Now

By Ian R. Kenyon

THE HAGUE — Two years ago this Friday in Paris, representatives of 130 states signed the Chemical Weapons Convention. Its aim is to rid the world forever of the horrors of chemical weapons — the blistering mustard gases, as effective in the Iran-Iraq war as in Flanders in World War I, and the even deadlier nerve gases, developed but not used in World War II, which devastated the Kurdish population in the Iraqi city of Halabja in 1988.

The convention, once in force, will create an international organization for the prohibition of chemical weapons, or OPCW, charged with supervising the destruction of chemical weapons and related facilities in signatory states. It will also provide an inspection system to ensure that the chemical industry, military or civilian, is not misused for purposes related to chemical weapons.

This is a genuine multilateral agreement, negotiated and concluded among equals, developed and developing countries. It imposes equal obligations on all parties. As such, it sets the standards for others to follow.

So, with the number of signatories to the convention now at 159, where is the problem? It lies in the action needed to bring the convention into effect.

In international law, the signing of a treaty constitutes an initial statement of intent to be

come bound by it. The more important step is reaffirmation of that intent through ratification by due constitutional process. In most countries this involves parliamentary approval.

In the case of the Chemical Weapons Convention, it will also require legislative or official action to enable the government to implement its provisions — for instance, to collect statistics from private companies or to grant access for inspectors to private property.

The drafters of the convention provided for a minimum of two years between its opening for signature and its entry into force, to allow time for the establishment of the OPCW. They also set a requirement that 65 states should ratify the agreement six months before this could occur.

The two years are up, but by the end of last year only 19 states had filed notice of ratification with the United Nations secretary-general.

Parliamentary processes and bureaucratic preparations are well advanced in other countries. But in several important countries — in particular, the United States and Russia, the only acknowledged possessors of stockpiles of chemical weapons — progress is agonizingly slow and parliamentary atten-

tion focuses on other priorities.

It is vitally important that the additional ratifications be achieved this year. Early action by Russia and the United States, which recently supported the negotiation of the convention, and which entered into important bilateral chemical weapons agreements in 1989 and 1990, will be crucial.

Such action needs to include both ratification of the convention and enactment of the 1990 bilateral agreement, the verification provisions of which complement the convention.

While the signing of the convention represented a major step toward eliminating the threat of chemical warfare, the convention must be brought into legal force soon for the world to reap its benefits.

Significant delay would encourage continued proliferation, increase temptation to develop new kinds of chemical weapons, and dissipate the political momentum to ban such weapons. The opportunity exists now to eliminate an entire class of weapons of mass destruction. The international community, led by the United States and Russia, should grasp this opportunity.

The writer is executive secretary of the preparatory commission for the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. He contributed this comment to the *International Herald Tribune*.

cannot go on bleeding itself in post-electoral conflict.

Four more articles of democracy in Mexico: a working federalism, a true division of powers, an electoral statute for Mexico City, and the rule of law through reform of the corrupt judiciary.

The media are the sixth. The comedy of errors will never end if television — and Televisa, in particular — neither informs nor criticizes, limiting itself to parroting the presidential line.

The next three are human rights, respect for civil society and its organizations, and reform of security agencies to assure safety at the individual, public and national levels.

Finally, a market economy with a social dimension and balance between the public and private sectors through developing the social sector.

If political reform is at the start of Mexico's solutions, at the end we are back in economics. The contract for Mexico must lead to a greater balance between healthy finances, growing production and higher salaries. We will achieve none of this if the principles of accountability and checks and balances are not forcefully set in place. But we also will not gain anything if the present climate of vengeance against Mr. Salinas is allowed to get out of hand.

Mexico should now devote itself to finding laws, rules of coexistence and tolerance, freedoms and agreements, so that our present troubles shall never come back to haunt us.

Mr. Fuentes, the novelist and poet, contributed this comment to *The New York Times* Syndicate.

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

### 1895: Hypnotic Lecture

NEW YORK — The residents of New Riegel, a small village thirty miles south of Toledo, are greatly excited over the doings of a man calling himself Professor Rock and claiming to be a hypnotist. He went to the village a few weeks ago and announced that he would deliver a lecture. Many of the villagers who had attended his lecture were in the streets afterwards hypnotizing one another. They claim to imagine themselves animals, demons, and even inanimate objects.

### 1920: The Chief Stays

PARIS — Interesting political questions are raised by M. Poincaré's election as Senator for the Department of the Meuse. Many folk are asking whether the President of the Republic is eligible for election to the Senate. As no law

renders the chief magistrate ineligible, his election is valid. And from the President's letter of thanks to his electors he accepts their mandate. M. Poincaré will continue in office as President of the Republic until his full term has expired and will then proceed to the Senate.

### 1945: Snow Battle

PARIS — Street-fighting broke out again yesterday (Jan. 12) in Paris but this time it was a city-wide snow battle. The city awoke to find that four inches of snow had fallen, the first heavy fall of the winter and an unusually heavy fall for Paris. The result was an international battle. American forces were the first to enter the winter offensive; French soldiers soon joined in. The air was full of snow missiles. Some time after the war is ended there may be some official statements.

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## OPINION

Thinking Outside the Dots  
About 1995 in Washington

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — Newt Gingrich, management consultant-speak, addressed the House Ways and Means Committee last week on the importance of "thinking outside the dots."

This notion is also often rendered as "thinking outside the box." The idea is to encourage people to junk their preconceptions. If you want to change the way the world works, you often have to abandon your ideas about how the world works.

In that spirit, one would do well to consider some heretical thoughts about how Washington will work over the next year. The core principle: Things will be very different in six months. Remember that at the beginning of 1994, President Bill Clinton was high in the polls.

Bear in mind, also, that some of the best counterfactual thinkers in the Republican Party are already sounding cautionary alarms. William Kristol, the smart Republican strategist, theorizes that the Republicans could get into trouble in 1995 if they are seen by voters as being truly in charge of Washington. "We aren't governing yet," Mr. Kristol warns in his latest memo to the party. The danger for Republicans lies in doing anything that would let Mr. Clinton run an anti-Washington campaign against the Republican Congress.

Even if that seems preposterous, consider some other scenarios:

• **Newt Gingrich as an ally of President Clinton.**

Everything Mr. Gingrich says points to a strategy aimed at solidifying Republican control of Congress and the country, which means he wants Mr. Clinton defeated in 1996. It is not that simple because Mr. Gingrich will face difficult choices. He needs to demonstrate that his new majority made some noticeable progress in doing the things it set out to do. If Mr. Clinton sets the price for enacting a middle-class tax cut as eliminating or gutting a capital gains tax cut, Mr. Gingrich may want to pay it, even if the Senate leader, Bob Dole, does not. Otherwise, Mr. Gingrich would be seen as holding up benefits for the middle class simply to get a capital gains cut that is not high on the priority list of fed-up swing voters. Mr. Gingrich, moreover, has been talking about cooperating with Vice President Al Gore's reinventing government mavens.

There is also what you might call a Freudian-Machiavellian point here: Mr. Gingrich is now the most important Republican in America. Unless he wants to run for president just a year from now — bet against it — he

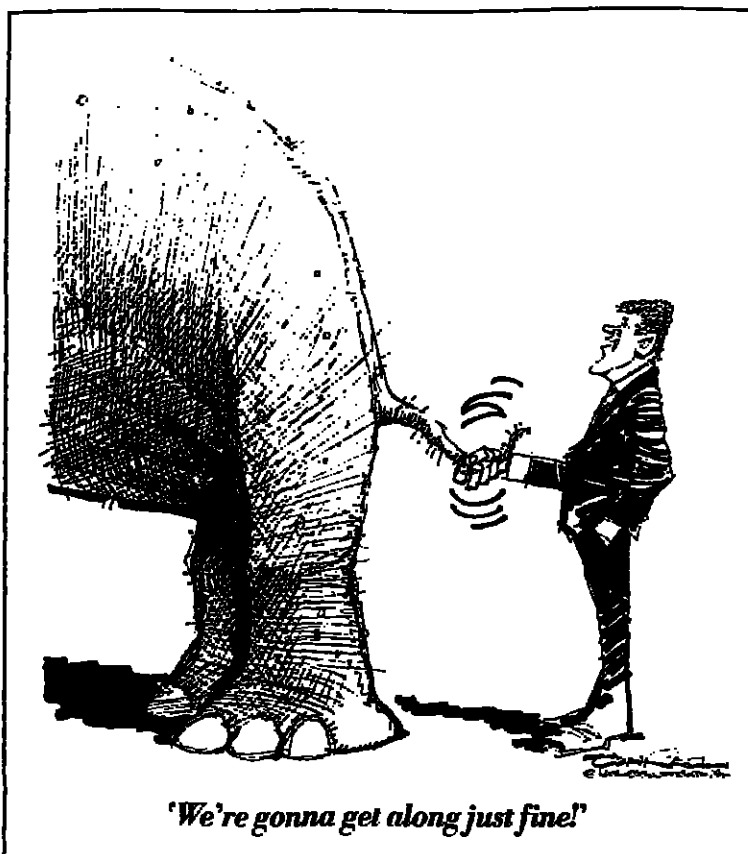
could find himself far less important in 1997 under President Phil Gramm (or Bob Dole or Lamar Alexander).

No, Mr. Gingrich won't try to reelect Mr. Clinton; a Clinton victory could help deprive the Republicans of their congressional majorities. But if conflicts arise between the Republicans' presidential and congressional wings, do you doubt which way Mr. Gingrich will tilt?

• **The inevitable fights between Mr. Clinton and congressional Democrats.**

The flip side of the above is also true: Mr. Clinton's interests will not always be the same as Dick Gephardt's or Tom Daschle's. Leon Panetta, the White House chief of staff, admitted last month that some Clinton initiatives may be easier to pass now than Democrats do not control Congress. That is true: Reshaping programs in the housing and labor fields, for example, will be simpler now that the old arrangements no longer enjoy the protection of Democratic committee and subcommittee chairs. And some in the Clinton circle blame congressional Democrats for November's results as least as bitterly as the folks on Capitol Hill blame the White House.

The dance between the Clintonites and Democrats in Congress will be complicated, of course. Mr. Clinton needs Democratic support to sustain vetoes. Democrats need some unifying proposals if they are to win 22 months from now. Democrats will not retake Congress if Mr. Clinton gets clobbered. Still, each side may have to sell the other out from time to time — and, harder yet,



'We're gonna get along just fine!'

accept that as political reality.

• **Today's winning issues become tomorrow's losers.**

Health care was the dream issue of 1993, the catastrophe of 1994. Who knows if a modest health reform plan might not be a winner in 1995? Republican obstruction of popular reforms carries a higher price now than it did.

Politically, Bill Kristol was right when he told Republicans to buck the apparent mood and block health reform. Democrats will need to make

similarly gutsy calls on turkeys such as the budget amendment, some of the Republicans' welfare schemes, and extreme "regulatory reform" measures designed to gut environmental and safety regulations.

It is possible, of course, that one side or the other in the coming battles will get its strategy exactly right and foreclose all these complicating possibilities. But even if you are still inside those dots (or that box), I bet you don't believe that.

The Washington Post.

## They Sent Up Everything They Had

By Denis Warner

MELBOURNE — As 1945 began and World War II in the Pacific moved toward its climax, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff pondered where to strike next, while the Japanese High Command hunted desperately for any weapon that might halt the American advance.

General Douglas MacArthur's landing at Leyte in October 1944 had installed U.S. forces firmly in the southern Philippines. With his eye on Manila, the general had argued that the next stepping stone on the way to Tokyo should be a landing on the northern Philippine island of Luzon. Admiral Ernest J. King, the U.S. chief of naval operations, preferred Formosa (now Taiwan), to be followed by a landing at Amoy on the Chinese mainland.

Just before the Leyte landing the U.S. joint chiefs instructed General MacArthur to be ready to invade Luzon. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, U.S. commander in chief for the Pacific, was ordered to prepare to take Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

Meanwhile, something extraordinary, almost surreal, was happening in Japan. Tens of thousands of schoolchildren were put to work to glue pieces of paper together, out of which huge balloons were fashioned to carry incendiary bombs on prevailing winds across the Pacific to the coast of North America. The aim was to cause huge forest fires.

The envelope of the balloons was made of four or five pieces of mulberry paper, each about the thickness of cigarette paper. They were bonded with a paste made of flour. Sections of paper were cemented together to form an almost perfect sphere about 33 feet (11 meters) in diameter. A metal valve with a rubber diaphragm maintained just the right pressure to prevent the balloon from

exploding should it rise too high. A load of incendiary bombs hung on 19 shroud lines, each about 40 feet long that trailed from the balloon.

From November 1944 to the end of June 1945, more than 160 of these balloons, including three of rubberized silk, were recovered on the U.S.

## 1945 PACIFIC 1995

mainland, in Hawaii, Canada, Mexico and at sea. Almost 9,000 balloons were launched from Japan in the six months to April 1945. One of the balloons with bombs landed near Grand Rapids, Michigan. Another was found near the lumber village of Bly in Oregon. Accidentally detonated, it killed a fisherman.

If the Japanese balloons caused any forest fires, they were not recorded. But the propaganda stories that accompanied their launch were doubtless designed to raise morale in Japan, where people were told that bomb-laden balloons, manned by death-defying pilots, would soon attack the United States.

Many new weapons were rumored to be in production in Japan. One, described as a six-engine plane four times as large as an American B-29 bomber, was supposedly to be used for suicide attacks against the U.S. mainland. Farfetched though it seemed, the story had a basis in fact. As early as 1942, the Japanese Army had tested a twin-engine aircraft, the Tachikawa Ki-77, which had a calculated range of 11,185 miles (18,150 kilometers).

The plane was designed to fly nonstop from Tokyo to New York. However, only two prototypes were built. One disappeared over the Indian Ocean in an attempt to fly nonstop from Singapore to Berlin. The other, on a test flight over a triangular circuit in Manchuria, covered a distance of 10,212 miles in the summer of 1944, remaining aloft for 57 hours.

Officially fabricated stories circulated in Japan about an atomic discharge to be used against enemy aircraft. It was supposed to have a paralyzing effect on the plane. Another weapon, described by the daily Asahi Shimbun in futuristic terms, was to be a laser-like light beam that illuminated and destroyed.

If the propaganda about Japanese weapons was grossly exaggerated, the reality, as the Allies were to learn, was still awesome. Despite every precaution, the U.S. Navy expected a rough passage on its way to land General MacArthur's forces in the Lingayen Gulf off northern Luzon early in January 1945. But it did not anticipate anything quite as rough as it got.

Kamikaze attack planes nearly broke Allied morale and forced abandonment of the operation. The 164 ships in the landing force and its escorts had passed virtually undisturbed by Japanese air attacks, until they passed through the Surigao Strait into the Sulu Sea off the southern Philippines. Then, at dinner time on Jan. 4, a lone raider closed in on the U.S. freighter Omaney Bay before anyone saw it.

The kamikaze dove, struck the open bridge and crashed into the starboard side of the deck. American aircraft stored there, loaded with fuel, caught fire. One of the suicide plane's 500-pound bombs, with a delayed-action fuse, went through the deck to the hangar below, where it exploded. Another bomb penetrated to the second platform deck and went off as an alarm sounded belatedly through the ship.

Every aircraft on the hangar deck was loaded with fuel and bombs. The entire area exploded in flames. An hour after the Omaney Bay had been hit, torpedoes it was carrying also exploded, raining debris on a destroyer picking up burned and wounded men from the sea.

To prevent what was left of the Omaney Bay from becoming a beacon for other suicide planes, the ship was deliberately sunk by torpedo. The human losses: 93 killed and missing, and 65 wounded.

For the next two days, kamikazes rained down on the Allied force, inflicting heavy damage and losses on nine ships, including the U.S. battleship New Mexico. Many other allied vessels suffered lesser damage and casualties. Lieutenant General Herbert Lumsden, Churchill's personal liaison officer at General MacArthur's headquarters, was killed with Captain R.W. Fleming, the commanding officer, when the New Mexico was hit on Jan. 6. One of Australia's largest warships, the heavy cruiser Australia, was hit repeatedly by kamikazes and forced to retire.

Shock and dismay spread through the Allied amphibious force, prompting Rear Admiral Jess B. Oldendorf, fresh from his brilliant success against the Japanese fleet in the battle of Leyte Gulf, to recommend that the Luzon invasion be reconsidered.

However, fortune then smiled on the Allies. With success in its grasp, the Japanese Navy in the Philippines ran out of planes. The remaining suicide pilots, with nothing left to fly, took to the hills to fight as infantry.

The writer, who covered the war in the Pacific for Australian and British newspapers, is co-author with Peggy Warner of "The Sacred Warriors, Japan's Suicide Legions." He contributed this comment to the International Herald Tribune.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Remember Auschwitz

Jan. 27 marks the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. As a small memorial to the millions of people exterminated there, and of the way they were transported to their deaths, could we not put up signposts every 100 kilometers along the principal railway lines that took them there?

It would be good to have many such signposts in place by the year 2000 to remind us, amid our millennial celebrations, that it was Christian indifference, if not prejudice, that allowed the Holocaust to happen.

It would also be good if, by the year 2000, Jan. 27 became a European day of Holocaust remembrance. In addition to the liberation of Auschwitz, Jan. 27 marks the raising in 1944

of the siege of Leningrad, during which nearly a million people died from shelling or starvation.

RAYMOND LLOYD, London.

## A Tree Burns in Alsace

The People column of Dec. 28 reports the setting afire of Christmas trees at Rockefeller Center in New York and says that no such custom "has been discovered" in France. Last June, the David Brown group, of which I am a director, purchased a firm in the Alsatian city of Thann. Our chief executive, Chris Brown, attended Thann's annual festival, which commemorates the sighting of the "miraculous" burning of three pine trees by the local patron saint. The festival is called La Crémation des Sapins, and the burning of pine trees is, in fact, part of the celebration.

JOHN C. MOWINCKEL, London.

## Pushing Back Hudson Bay

Regarding "American Heritage — Gift" (Nov. 9) by Fred Barbash:

This report was unclear about the Hudson's Bay Company. It was founded in the 17th century, 1670, and did not begin the continent's international fur trade, but exploited it.

BRAD WRIGHT, St.-Cloud, France.

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## BOOKS

## THE BLACK BOOK

By Orhan Pamuk. Translated from Turkish by Guneli Gun. 400 pages. \$25. Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

Reviewed by Richard Eder

IN "The Black Book," Orhan Pamuk's braided mysteries coil around the story of a plodding husband who searches for his restless wife through Istanbul's serpentine streets and historical memory. Once it was the Ottoman Empire's Constantinople and before that, the Byzantine Empire's, and long before that, the ancient Greek Byzantium.

For Pamuk, author of the warmly praised "The White Castle," the city is a suffocating midden of 2,000 years of temporary victories and permanent defeat. Pamuk writes of the defeat. His philosophical detective story is an evocation of the crippled consciousness and destructive reflexes of his fellow Turks: heirs of a traditional Eastern society, and engaged for three-quarters of a century in a Westernizing project that still has not taken root.

Elaborated with a dizzying

## WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Carlos Falcó, Spain's Marqués de Griñón, is reading, "España, La Segunda Transición," by José María Aznar, the leader of Spain's main conservative opposition political party.

"Some of the problems are common to European democracies, others intrinsically Spanish. They are exposed, along with the proposed solutions, in a clear-cut, old Castilian yet modern style." (Al Goodman, IHT)



wealth of discursiveness, distraction and literary baiting and switching, it often bogs down under its own abundance. It will dazzle and then, with an effect akin to snow-blindness, it goes indistinct. It disappears into its own virtuosity and reappears. It remains distant from the reader like someone who talks fast and well and doesn't look you in the eye, and suddenly, with disconcerting effect, looks you in the eye. It is a trying book and worth trying.

Galip's quest is partly human and mostly allegorical. He is an undistinguished lawyer desperately in love with Ruya, his long-haired, long-legged cousin

and wife, who spends the day reading detective novels. We never see her and yet she is vivid and oddly lovable.

She vanishes suddenly, leaving a 19-word note in green ink. We are only told nine of the words — an example of Pamuk's exasperating elusiveness — but we are made to understand that she has gone off with her half-brother Jelal, to whom she has always been attracted.

In the quest, Ruya is all but lost sight of; the real quarry is Jelal, Istanbul's most celebrated and controversial newspaper columnist. Galip has always worshiped and envied him and lived in his shadow. Even as children, when Galip and Ruya played hide-and-seek Ruya would never try to find him but go off instead to meet Jelal.

The book proceeds by alternate chapters. One set tells of Galip's search; the other contains Jelal's writings. Gradually the two converge; finally Galip and Jelal will also converge. Eventually Galip will be living in Jelal's apartment, wearing his pajamas, writing his columns and taking over his lovers' calls and his death threats. By this time the actual fate of Jelal and Ruya has dwindled. Eventually we will learn it and be touched when Galip momen-

tarily comes down to earth, as it were, and lets himself grieve.

There is a bravura chapter in which Jelal writes of the Bosphorus drained, and sedimentary layers of history turning up in the pestilential muck. There are the skeletons of galley slaves chained to their boats, the skeletons of crusaders atop their skeleton horses, sackfuls of the sultan's courtiers fallen out of favor, strangled and ditched, an entire German battleship and a white Cadillac belonging to a rich gangster.

To be oneself, to reject outside influences: a national obsession that, for Pamuk, leads nowhere. Galip, however, illustrates an opposite national obsession. He wants only to be someone else; he wants only to be the powerful and glamorous Jelal, free of narrow Turkish prejudices and sought out by foreign journalists and television teams as their sophisticated interlocutor. He wants above all to have the power that Jelal wields: to control the universe by writing about it. By the end, he has to let intentions and purposes become Jelal. As for the real Jelal: Before a mysterious ambush that claims his and Ruya's lives, he has shown signs of abdicating his power and seeking something more authentic.

What that will be, this intriguing, overnourished and maddeningly private attempt at a public novel, doesn't say. All we have to hold on to, at the end, is Galip remembering Ruya and the game they once played. They would try to describe what a day would be like when they reached the age of 73. Now, alone, Galip lives out that day in his imagination.

Richard Eder is on the staff of the Los Angeles Times.

## BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

PLAYERS often fail to realize that a minor-suit game in a 4-4 fit may be the right contract if three no-trump is unattractive and there is no major-suit fit. The diagrammed example, noted and analyzed by the Rev. Caxton Doggett makes this point.

If South is able to open one heart, he may have an uninterrupted run to five diamonds, as shown. He ruffs the spade lead, and uses dummy's heart entries to ruff two more spades. He then cashes the club ace, ruffs a club, and reached this position:

NORTH  
♠ 987  
♥ 7  
♦ Q 108  
♣ 5

EAST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

WEST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

SOUTH  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

WEST  
♠ 987642  
♥ AK  
♦ Q 1085  
♣ 10

EAST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

WEST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

EAST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

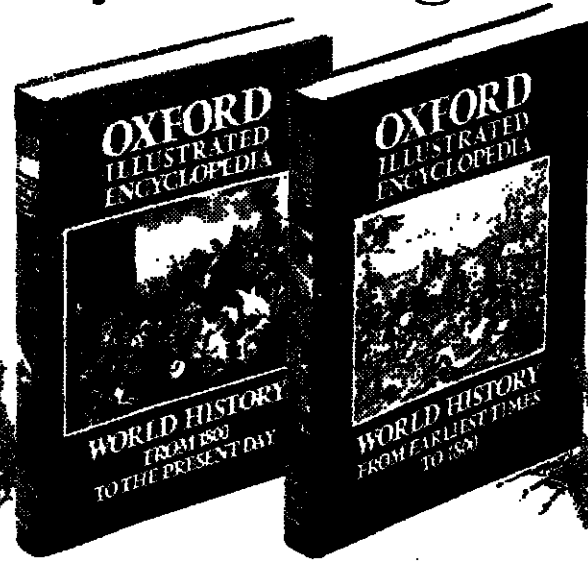
WEST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

EAST  
♠ —  
♥ —  
♦ —  
♣ —

Another spade is led, and East must choose. If he throws a

West leads the spade king.

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## The Rare and the Raw In Bangkok Market

In the Chatuchak's Teeming Maze,  
You Can Buy, and See, Anything

By Andrew Ranard

**B**ANGKOK — It is most rare. Nothing makes sense in Bangkok, nor is anything supposed to make sense, and this both rattles and engages the fumes of imagination. It is not impossible to see hill-tribe people from northern Thailand bringing their wares to market in Bangkok on the backs of elephants, the creatures lumbering through rush-hour traffic down Sukhumvit Road, a main thoroughfare. And then there's that prophetic story about the Bangkok city cop who lost his senses during the city's traffic jams and began dancing in the middle of the street.

What to call the Chatuchak Market? It's an outdoor-indoor market, but it is also an anarchic whirlpool of the city's classes and tastes — its vulgarities and refinements, its tide of fascinations, its ultimate indifference, and its sacrosanct niches of respect. At Chatuchak almost anything can be purchased: from pots and pans to Bangkok's ubiquitous pirated tapes; from watercolors to Doberman pinschers; from faded American Levi's (or so claimed) to Romanesque nude statuary. There are shops that sell portraits of royalty and famous monks and others where tree stumps and old wooden wagon wheels (decoration for the garden) are thrown together in a jungle pile all the way to the ceilings.

You cannot see all of Chatuchak in one day. It is a maze of 6,000 tiny shops in a grid of alleys under tents, winding into knots, like a neighborhood of the city unto itself, even though it is open only on Saturdays and Sundays. Thus, if there were a method to doing Chatuchak, to conquering it in one outing, it would mean walking round and round in dizzying circles, and seeing half of it three or four times. Chatuchak remains the Himalaya of marketplaces — unconquered, never completely discovered, exhilarating and potentially treacherous.

What you discover on any weekend is determined by luck and accident. The crowds of 100,000, the policemen with sidearms and the long-haired toughs in sunglasses and camouflage outfits will be there next week, but will the beggar praying to the gnarled tree that sits at the edge of the warren? You may run across the Prince of Hawkers — the guy who wears a cut-off T-shirt, a bandanna around his forehead and stands on a table above the crowd, dancing to heavy rock and flogging shirts at \$4 a whack.

But what about the madwoman?

The madwoman jumps off a van Gogh canvas, from his early dark years when he did those portraits of Dutch peasants. Her skin is the texture of baked leather. Her jaws are heavy, her eyes dance a rhapsody of swirling merriment. In her sorcerer's hands, she holds a small wild squirrel. The animal has sharp vicious

teeth, and she reaches into its mouth with nail clippers and with lightning-quick feline snips off its teeth. She hands the bloodied animal to a customer. Proudly. The eyes keep dancing, to a symphony only she can hear.

Later, I jostle into a man who has a snake wrapped around his arm — a black one with red circles around it — right there in the middle of the swarming crowd. Is he selling it or showing off? Around the corner from him is the shop that sells endangered species.

A sign on the shop reads like a threat: "No Photo. No Video." The owner is selling snakes from Africa and Argentina (a python), rare birds and a star tortoise from Sri Lanka. A blue and yellow macaw is going for 30,000 baht (about \$1,200) and the star tortoise is 1,200 baht.

"Why so cheap?" I ask of the star tortoise.

"Not so rare," the owner says.

**I**T is difficult to feel outrage. One comes to Chatuchak, after all, to witness the rare, in the wildest and most untamed metropolis of Asia.

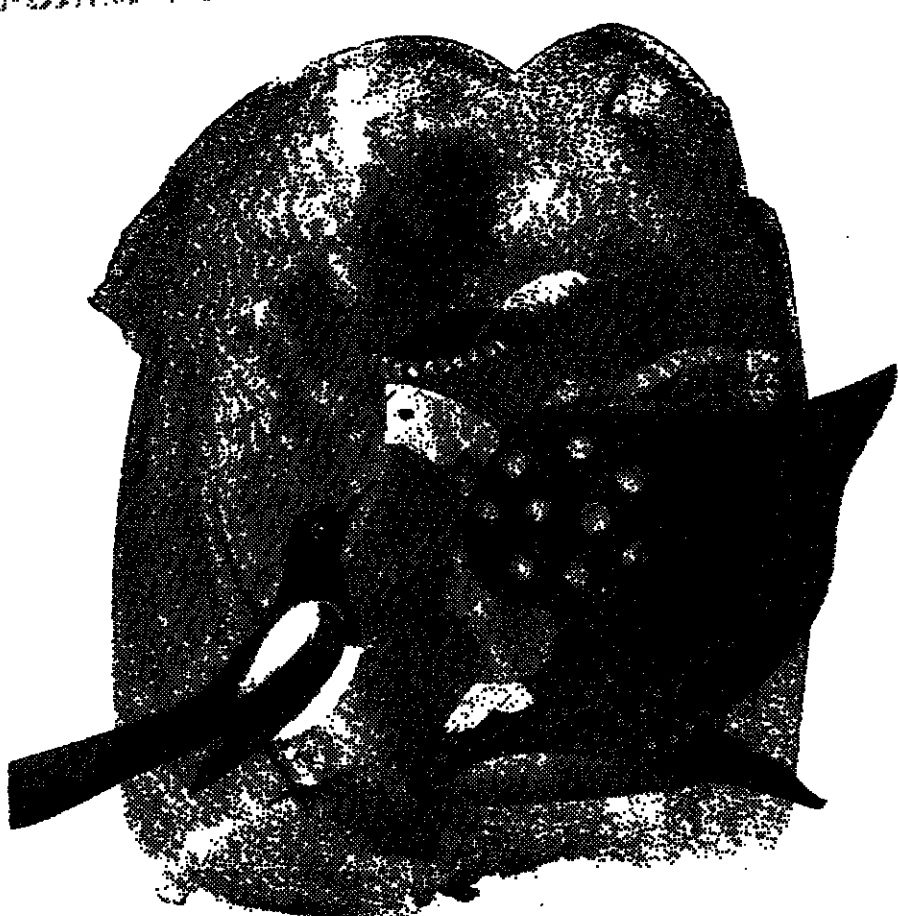
To one end of the market, there are two cafes. One is air-conditioned. It is as if somebody had decided to open up a McDonald's or a Tiffany's here. In the air-conditioned cafe, Thai oldie-but-goldie record albums covers are tacked to the wall, and in the other cafe, old company advertising signs hang from the ceiling: Schlusser tools, Karpal car polish, Toyota tires, Kingfisher cigarettes.

It is here, in the two cafes, that one finds Bangkok's rarest of classes, rare in the sense of snobbery, the young bourgeoisie, wearing faded old Levi's, sipping coffee and tea. It doesn't make sense, but that doesn't mean one doesn't yearn for revelation. How would Renoir have rendered this scene?

Andrew Ranard writes at large from Southeast Asia.



A children's book illustration center is flourishing in Sarmede in northern Italy. Here are some samples of work shown there, as well as a view of a workshop.



## Art for Children, on the Road

By Kate Singleton

**S**ARMEDE, Italy — The long dark evenings of winter once hummed and crackled with the doings of beaky witches, fat slob ogres, princes (good and bad), princesses (always good and often sad: no wonder Prince Charles elicits less sympathy than Princess Di), magic fish, dwarfs, minstrels, swans, peacocks, gulls, cats, mice. Such are the creatures that have populated children's tales since time immemorial.

Until the spread of TV, you say with a sigh as you try to turn the volume down over your transfixed offspring's heads so that you can hear what you're reading. Despite the spread of TV, a chorus of voices would chant gleefully from the tiny fairy-tale town of Sarmede, tucked in among the mountains north of Treviso. And herein lies a small secular miracle of the sort children's stories are usually about.

In the space of a decade Sarmede has become the international center for illustrators specializing in children's books and the source of an exhibition that visits many major European cities, attracting parents and children.

This is largely due to the ideas and enthusiasm of Stepan Zavrel, a Prague-born illustrator long resident at Sarmede

who got the first exhibition off the ground in 1983. Soon the IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People) and Unicef were involved, along with a research group from the University of Padua specializing in children's literature. By 1989 a sponsor had come forward (Stefanel, the clothing manufacturers), and two years later the exhibitions began to tour. Meanwhile, a summer school for children's book illustrators has brought aspiring artists and fable-tellers to Sarmede from all over the world, giving new impulse to ancient traditions and promoting future generations of, yes, literacy, no less.

The 12th edition of "Le Immagini della Fantasia" (Images of Fantasy) is about to leave Sarmede for Treviso (Casa dei Carrari, Jan. 27-Feb. 26). From there it will go to Ljubljana and then to Essen, the first stops in a long international itinerary that often includes workshops for children.

This year the exhibition comprises a general section featuring the works of artists from central and western Europe, Canada and South Africa. The variety of subject matter and techniques illustrated (from extraordinarily versatile use of watercolor to tempera, acrylics, painting, collage) is truly remarkable.

This is also encouragingly true in the second section of the exhibition, devoted

to the work of artists from China, Japan, Taiwan and Vietnam. Not so many years ago local artistic traditions in these countries were practically smothered by imported stereotypes of largely American origin. This is clearly no longer so. Even the tales told speak for renewed pride and interest in a local heritage. To wit: The paintings on silk by Le Lam of Vietnam to illustrate "King of Mice," the dynamism of his warrior figures and fiery horses; or the tortoises and bright swirling fish painted in tempera by Feng Jiannan of China.

The third section of the show is a homage to the work of Firuzeh Golmohammadi, the Iranian artist who is considered to be the foremost interpreter of the current renaissance in Persian miniature painting.

**F**OR many years she directed the magazine Zan-e Rooz (Woman Today) and is clearly a person of remarkable vision and ability in handling detail. There is a magnificent royal procession painted using a mixture of different techniques that embodies all her singular gifts. It is an illustration for the tale of "The jackal who fell into the paint vat" and features balding bearers, mounted and foot soldiers, dignitaries and trumpeters, all of whom emerge from an



almost damasked background. Without actually having to specify the richness of their attire, the artist thus manages to conjure up the impression of splendid brocades, which are of course essentially Middle Eastern textiles.

The technique of suggesting detail rather than defining it is a particularly subtle one since it leaves so much space for active involvement on the part of the beholder. Children are thus able to develop and enjoy the fruits of their own imaginations. And so are adults. Which is what the Sarmede event is all about.

Kate Singleton lives in Italy and writes frequently on cultural affairs.

## FEAR THIS

American cultural imperialism knows no bounds: Asia's second "Ripley's Believe It or Not!" museum is opening this month in the Thai resort of Pattaya, about 110 kilometers southeast of Bangkok, and will include, AP tells us, a 15-foot-wide tire and a wax replica of a man with two irises in each eye. The Florida-based company plans to open two other museums in Asia this year, in Indonesia and in the Philippines. There's no fighting the American way of life.

## THE MOVIE GUIDE

### Consentement Mutuel

Directed by Bernard Stora. France.

Jeanne (Anne Brochet) and Romain (Richard Berry) live in a bright blue-and-white apartment with their daughter (Adrienne Winling) who is 10 years old, like the marriage. The opening scene shows the ideal setting disrupted by the couple's clash and split. For a while it looks

like a dream divorce, they agree about everything, dine together; in fact, they have never gotten along so well. But after marriage à la mode, the director examines the lower depths of modern divorce. Romain starts to cook up insidious stories, hinting that Jeanne is unfit to raise the child, spreading the insinuations to her parents, friends and boss. He is going around the bend and wants

to take her with him. Since she is an innocent, Jeanne never grasps what is happening, which provides the rocky narration — strong scenes, followed by moments of silly sitcom — with suspense. Anne Brochet's creation of a touching and credible heroine saves the pacing from breakdown. Brochet is both fresh and mature; she carries herself — and this movie — with the grace of Ingrid Bergman. (Joan Dupont, IHT)



From left, Claire Danes, Trini Alvarado and Winona Ryder in "Little Women."

### Little Women

Directed by Gillian Armstrong. U.S.

"Some books are so familiar reading them is like being home again," Jo March observes in the new film version of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel. She's talking about Shakespeare, but we all know "Little Women" is a book like that, one of the most seductively nostalgic novels any child ever discovers. As the gold standard for American girlhood, it lingers in our

collective consciousness as a wistful, inspiring memory. Ladies, get out your handkerchiefs for the loveliest "Little Women" ever on screen. Gillian Armstrong's enchantingly pretty film is so potent that it prompts a rush of recogni-

tion from the opening frame. There in Concord, Massachusetts, are the March girls and their noble Marmee, gathered around the hearth for a heart-renderingly quaint Christmas Eve. Stirring up a flurry of familial warmth, Armstrong instantly demonstrates that she has caught the essence of this book's sweetness and cast her film uncannily well, finding sparkling young actresses who are exactly right for their famous roles: Winona Ryder as Jo, Kirsten Dunst as Amy, Trini Alvarado as Meg and Claire Danes as Beth. The effect is magical. And for all its unimaginable innocence, the story has a touching naturalness this time. The direction by Armstrong, who long ago summoned memories of "Little Women" with "My Brilliant Career" (1978), is sentimental without being saccharine, and she reinvents "Little Women" for present-day audiences without ever forgetting it's a story with a past. (Janet Maslin, NYT)

It moves at such an excruciatingly slow pace that one can't be faulted for wondering if the tormented protagonist will ever find peace and the movie will end. (It finally does, after 117 minutes.) Slow films can be magnificent, but not with a script like the one written by Paz Alicia Gracia Diego. The opening credit says the plot is the "imaginary biography" of the sentimental life of Lucha Reyes, who was a popular singer in Mexico City in the '40s. The fantasy might be credible if it engaged the viewer with dialogue or emotion, but instead the sad tale of a singer hopelessly seeking love, or perhaps just thrills, goes nowhere. The singer's dominating mother and the other characters lack enough of an edge in all the key moments. The action too often consists of the cast smoking cigarettes, and the occasional cigar. Arturo Ripstein manages to squeeze in a few unusual scenes, like the early love-making between the singer and her boyfriend, or the cabaret piano. The keyboard bangs out minor chords under the weight of passion. But the director goes overboard on moody sequences shot with mirrors. (Al Goodman, IHT)

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## THE ARTS GUIDE

## Spending an Evening in Provence

By Patricia Wells  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS—The French bistro of the '90s has secured its place in modern history, as casual dining, value and a cuisine with a Provencal-Italian accent take center stage. The best example of the trend is Bastide Odéon, a five-month-old family restaurant just steps from the Place de l'Odéon.

While the plain, low-budget decor—a simple attempt to camouflage an old, worn-out dining room—does little to inspire, neither does it get in the way of pleasurable dining. And of that you're all but assured under the able hands of Laurence and Gilles Ajoules; Gilles, the chef, has worked with both Michel Rostang and Jacques Maximin.

The formula menu follows the current French vogue, with a two-course 135-franc (\$25) menu at lunch, and a three-course 175-franc one at dinner.

While one may think that some of chef Ajoules's combinations would shock the palate, they're obviously well thought out, for they go down very easily. I was in the mood for fresh sardines but wasn't sure I'd like goat cheese alongside. Wrong. His combination of sparkling fresh sardines, marinated ever so lightly in an acid-oil base and paired with dollops of delicate, fresh goat cheese, proved a refreshing starter.

Equally delicious and equally surprising was his mild of baked, caramelized endive tossed with a touch of goat cheese

—a warm, cozy first course that exemplifies a modern chef's treatment of Belgian endive, one of northern Europe's most successful winter vegetables.

It would be hard to improve upon his simple roast chicken, paired with earthy charlotte potatoes and perfectly roasted cloves of garlic in their skins. With its gorgeous golden skin, the chicken was moist, tender and flavorful and an ideal match for the garlic, cooked to perfection—neither undercooked and indigestible, nor burnt and bitter, as is so often the case.

The menu shows that the Ajoules are in touch with the modern diner, who wants paste available at every possible moment. One can choose from a quartet of pastas, substituting them for either the first or main course. The penne with artichokes and Nipocis olives was a bit on the timid side, but satisfying nonetheless, with pasta bathed in a light tomato sauce and a shaving of Parmesan, which melted into a soothing cloud atop the noodles.

Desserts are equally successful, with pears poached in cassis and topped with a dollop of whipped mascarpone cream; and a pairing of a giant *sablé* cookie, soft moist quince and an apple-cinnamon sauce.

Worthy southern French winemakers are well represented on the brief wine list, which includes Alain Graillet's white Hermitage at 148 francs; Domaine du Mas Blanc rouge from Collioure at 126 francs and a seldom-seen Coteaux du Tricastin from Ludovic Cornillon, who produces a meaty 1992 red, a bargain at 88 francs.

A far less successful journey to Provence can be had via the route of Le Sud, another new restaurant that presumes we'd all rather be wandering through fields of lavender. With a flashy, ebullient decor that would make even van Gogh don sunglasses, Le Sud looks more like a stage set for a Pagnol movie than a restaurant. The elements are right—live olive trees, beautiful multi-toned tiles, colorful Provencal furniture, linens and tableware—but the result is overpowering.

**T**HE food is mediocre. There's a formulaic look and taste to it all, with that rigid, "I just came out of the fridge" flavor. The young and chic crowd seems to love it, from the strange combination of warm ratatouille paired with cold red and green vinegary peppers, to the successful lamb daube, and on to fresh cod that did not taste as though it had been cooked to order, topped with tapenade and paired with "fries" fashioned of zucchini and eggplant. The wine list is minimal, with a decent red Costières du Gard, Domaine Cassagne Tassin 1993, at 110 francs.

*Bastide Odéon, 7 Rue Cornille, Paris 6; tel. 43.26.03.65. Closed Sunday lunch and Sunday. Credit card: Visa. 135-franc menu at lunch, 175 francs at dinner.*

*Le Sud, 91 Boulevard Gouvion-Saint-Cyr, Paris 17; tel. 43.74.02.77. Closed Sunday. Credit card: American Express, Diners Club, MasterCard, Visa. A la carte, 130 to 200 francs, including service but not wine.*



A Dagon wood sculpture from Mali, on view in Paris.

### AUSTRIA

**Vienna**  
Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel. (1) 52-177-404, open daily. To Jan. 29: "Ägypten und das Abendland." Emphasizes the influence of ancient Egyptian art on 18th- and 19th-century European Art and Design.

### BELGIUM

**Antwerp and Ghent**  
De Vismase Opera, tel. (3) 233-66-85 (Antwerp) and (9) 225-24-25 (Ghent). To Feb. 19: "Romeo et Juliette." Directed by Cyrille Dieckrich, with Mary Mills, Marie-Ange Todorovitch and Gregory Kunde. In Ghent Jan. 27, 29 and Feb. 2; in Antwerp Feb. 9, 11 and 17.

### BRUSSELS

Musée Royal de l'Armée, tel. (2) 733-4463, closed Monday. To May 14: "J'avis 20 ans en 1945." In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Belgium, this exhibition displays memorabilia, historical documents and films to honor those that fought and died in World War II.

### BRITAIN

**Edinburgh**  
Scottish National Portrait Gallery, tel. (31) 332-2266, open daily. Continuing To Feb. 26: "Sir James Gurney." Features formal and intimate portraits, as well as oil sketches of beach scenes and contemporary life, by the Glaswegian artist.

### LONDON

British Library, tel. (71) 323-7111, open daily. Let there be Light: William Tyndale and the Making of the English Bible. To Feb. 19: In commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of William Tyndale, this exhibition traces the life and work of the first man to translate and print the Bible in English.

British Museum, tel. (71) 323-8525, open daily. Recently opened permanent gallery dedicated to the art and culture of ancient Mexico. Features exhibits from more than 3,000 years of pre-Hispanic history, including the Olmec, Mayan, and Aztec periods. Royal Opera House at Covent Garden, tel. (71) 240-1086. Mozart's "Così fan tutte." Directed by Jonathan Miller, conducted by Evelino Pido, with Tim Blazdell, Jackie Gallwey, Andrew Jameson and Colin Macell. Jan. 18, 23, 25, 26, and 31. Tate Gallery, tel. (71) 887-8000, open daily. Continuing To Feb. 12: "From Gainsborough to the Pre-Raphaelites: Works on Paper." A selection of British watercolorists which includes landscapes by Turner, drawings by Rossetti and engravings by Stubbs.

### CZECH REPUBLIC

**Prague**  
Wallenstein Riding School, tel. (2) 53-89-14, closed Mondays. Continuing To March 12: "Antonia's Culture." Features the works of the 19th-century Czech landscape painter Antonín Slavíček, who started as a historical and genre painter and turned to landscape while in Paris.

### DENMARK

**Copenhagen**  
The Royal Danish Opera, tel. 33-32-20-20, Mozart's "Die Entführung aus dem Serail." Directed by Jean Claude Auvray, conducted by Jean Glover, with Jorma Sylvest, Susan Patterson, Lena Nordin, and Inger Dam-Jensen. Djuna Mal-Mel, Jan. 16, 20, 22, 25 and Feb. 8, 13, 16 and 24.

### FRANCE

**Paris**  
Musée Dapper, tel. (1) 45-00-01, open daily. Continuing To Feb. 19: "Dogon." 90 works representing the diversity of art created by the Dogon ethnic group in Mali. Features seated and equestrian figures, as well as masks and accessories sculpted in wood.

Musée des Arts Décoratifs, tel. 44-55-57-50, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 30: "Reves d'arabes." The bedroom, symbol of intimacy, of life and death, and of pain and suffering, is honored in this exhibition.

Musée-Galerie de la Sella, tel. (1) 45-56-60-18, closed Sundays. Continuing To Feb. 25: "Fascin, 1885-1930." More than 100 paintings and drawings by one of the leaders of the Ecole de Montparnasse in the 1920s.

### GERMANY

**Berlin**  
Brocks-Museum, tel. (30) 832-20-29, closed Tuesdays. Continuing To Feb. 28: "Erich Heckel: 82 Neuenburger Zeichnungen und Aquarelle." A selection of drawings and watercolors by the German Expressionist artist, one of the founders of Die Brücke.

### IRELAND

**Dublin**  
Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art, tel. (1) 872-2182, closed. Continuing To Jan. 22: "Henri Hayden, 1865-1970." An exhibition of the works of the French painter, who started as a Cubist after meeting with Gris and Delaunay, and then turned to painting from nature in the 1920s. After World War II, Hayden's style evolved toward a combination of Cubist and Realist principles.

### ISRAEL

**Tel Aviv**  
Tel Aviv Museum of Art, tel. (3) 686-1297, open daily. Continuing To March 18: "Keith Haring." A retrospective of the works of the American graffiti artist, Haring came to fame in the late 1970s with his drawings in the New York City subway. His pictorial language includes recurrent images such as flying saucers, barking dogs and radiating babies which mingle with universal symbols and high-tech objects.

### ITALY

#### Bologna

Teatro Comunale, tel. (51) 529-999, Verdi's "Macbeth." Directed by Gary Bertini, conducted by Luca Ronconi, with Paolo Gavaneli, Deborah Voigt, Keith Olsen, and Lidia Brando. D'Arcazio, Jan. 28 and 30, Feb. 2, 5, 7, 10 and 12.

#### Genoa

Palazzo Ducale, tel. (10) 591-106, closed Mondays. To Jan. 25: "Marc Chagall e il suo mondo tra Vitebsk e Parigi." The works created by Chagall between 1908 and 1918 illustrate the influence of Russian Judaism on the painter. Also includes works by contemporaries such as Leon Bakst, Robert Falk and El Lissitzky.

#### National Museum of Western Art

tel. (3) 3828-5131, closed Mondays. To March 5: "German Woodcuts of the Reformation Age." 18th-century German prints from the Gotha city museum in Germany, including works by Dürer and Cranach, as well as political and religious satires.

### LUXEMBOURG

**Luxembourg**  
Casino Luxembourg, tel. (352) 22-50-45, closed Mondays. To March 26: "Luxe, Calme et Volupté: Regards sur le Post-Impressionisme." Major artistic themes of the turn-of-the-century are represented by more than 150 paintings, including interiors by Bonnard and Vuillard, still lifes from Odilon Redon, landscapes from van Gogh to Vallotton and portraits from Gauguin to Matisse.

### MONACO

**Monte Carlo**  
Opéra de Monte-Carlo, tel. 92-16-22-99, Verdi's "Rigoletto." Directed by Lorenzo Mariani, conducted by Bruno Campanella, with Leo Nucci, Tito Beltrani, Alexandrina Peldi-

chanska and Giacomo Prestia. Jan. 20, 22 and 24.

### NETHERLANDS

**Amsterdam**  
Rijksmuseum, tel. (20) 679-81-46, closed Mondays. Continuing To Feb. 26: "The Art of Devotion, 1300-1500." Features 50 late-medieval objects of private devotion, such as paintings, miniatures, prints and wood carvings. Among the artists represented are Mantegna and Vermeer.

### POLAND

**Warsaw**  
The National Museum, tel. (2) 621-1031, closed Mondays. To Feb. 19: "The Collection of Boleslaw and Lina Nawrocki." Works from the Nawrocki collection, including 300 paintings, watercolors and drawings by Jacek Maler. Also features works by Leopold Gottlieb, Alicia Halicka and other Polish painters who spent some time in Paris in the early 20th century.

### SPAIN

**Barcelona**  
Can Aiguall, tel. (3) 424-3809, open daily. To March 15: "Homenaje al animal." This sculpture homage, in the gardens of Can Aiguall, includes artists such as Javier Mariscal, the versatile designer of the Coca-Cola logo for the 1992 Olympic Games. Also included are works by Domènec Sanjaume, the winner of this year's Jackson Pollock Prize, and six life-size iron bulls made by Manuel Alvarez.

### SWEDEN

**Gothenburg**  
Eriksbergshallen, tel. (31) 779-11-11, open daily. Continuing To Feb. 19: "Leonardo da Vinci: Universal Genius." Drawings, manuscripts and paintings document the life and work of Leonardo da Vinci, including models of a bridge, a parachute, a tank and a stamping machine made to the specifications of the Renaissance man.

### Stockholm

Nationalmuseum, tel. (8) 666-4250, closed Mondays. To Jan. 29: "Tactile Art: Seeing by Touch." An exhibition of paintings which have been converted into reliefs, to give the blind and partially sighted an opportunity to discover some of Sweden's most famous artists. Centered on the theme of human beings, the exhibition is comprised of three tactile images and 12 sculptures.

### SWITZERLAND

**Geneva**  
Grand Théâtre, tel. (22) 311-22-18, "Nabucco," directed by François Rochau, conducted by Fabio Luisi, with Gregory Yurisich and Elizabeth Connell. Feb. 1, 4, 7, 10 and 13.

### UNITED STATES

**New York**  
The Museum of Fine Arts, tel. (713) 639-7500, closed Mondays. To Feb. 12: "Postwar Art From the Museum's Collection." The artists featured in this exhibition are powerful and partially sighted an opportunity to discover some of Sweden's most famous artists. Centered on the theme of human beings, the exhibition is comprised of three tactile images and 12 sculptures.

#### Brooklyn Museum of Art

tel. (718) 639-5000, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 2: Thomas Cole's "The Course of Empire." The painting, one of the artist's most important allegorical series, "The Course of Empire," and "The Voyage of Life," together for the first time since 1849.

#### Metropolitan Museum of Art

tel. (212) 570-3781, closed Mondays. To March 19: "The French Renaissance in Prints From the Bibliothèque Nationale de France." More than 120 works on paper document the artistic development, audiences and production of etchings, engravings and woodcuts in the 16th century.

#### The Museum of Modern Art

tel. (212) 708-8400, closed Mondays. To April 11: "Jacob Lawrence: The Migration Series." All 60 panels of the Migration Series, which have been divided between the Museum of Modern Art and the Phillips Collection in Washington, since its split purchase in 1942, are being shown together for the first time since 1972.

#### San Francisco

Museum of Modern Art, tel. (415) 357-4000, closed Mondays. In its new downtown facilities designed by Swiss architect Mario Botta, the Museum of Modern Art has a new permanent exhibition entitled "From Mies to Mies: Works from the Permanent Collection of Painting and Sculpture." Features approximately 250 works that serve to give a historical overview of painting and sculpture from 1800 to 1980.

#### Washington

National Museum of American History, tel. (202) 357-2700, open daily. To mid-March: "Women in Action: Rebels and Reformers, 1920-1980." This exhibition commemorates the 75th anniversary of women's right to vote, while exploring the political activism of some of the outstanding women of the movement. It focuses on women's political style of organizing at the grassroots level as a means of overcoming their exclusion from the formal political process.

## Plunging Into Cacophony of Cairo

By Chris Hedges  
New York Times Service

**C**AIRO—Cairo, a dusty, throbbing metropolis of 14 million people, is the cultural and artistic center of the Middle East, known to many as Um al Dunya—Mother of the World. Its coffeehouses, theaters and Pharaonic sites draw tens of thousands of visitors a year, many of whom go on to Upper Egypt to view the ancient monuments in Luxor and Aswan. This is the best time of the year to visit Cairo, when the city is cool and areas in the south warm.

Attacks by Muslim militants in the last two years have crippled tourism, which is only beginning to recover this season. A government crackdown, which has included the execution of several militant leaders, has improved security in Cairo. Tourists who visit the Pharaonic sites in Upper Egypt are widely urged to avoid Nile cruises that travel between Cairo and Luxor. The cruises between Luxor and Aswan are, however, considered secure. Bus travel through villages and small towns is another mode of transport that is commonly targeted by militants. One should still fly from Cairo to the southern sites.

To appreciate Cairo one must plunge in, embrace the cacophony and confusion with the gusto of an explorer. There are hundreds of nooks and crannies to visit. Like New York, Cairo is often at its best late at night. The most famous belly dancers, for example, do not even step on stage until after midnight.

Egyptians are a warm, patient people who, despite overcrowding and poverty, rarely engage in violent crime. One can always get directions or other assistance. And if the city becomes too overwhelming, try renting a boat and watching it from the tranquility of the Nile.

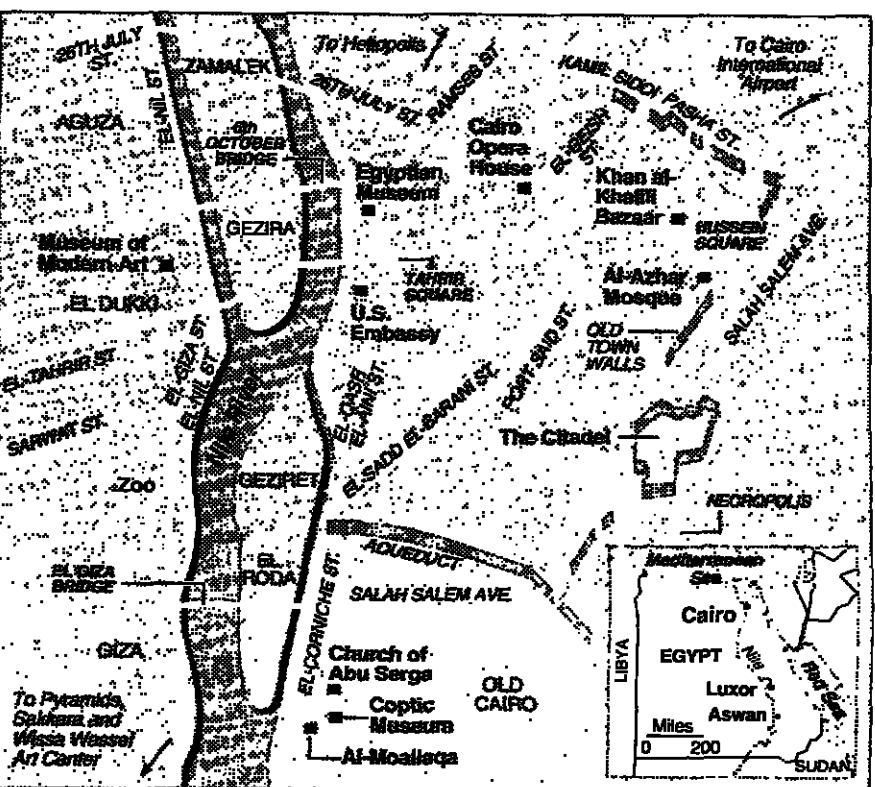
It is wise to dress conservatively in Cairo, especially with the rise of Islamic fundamentalism. Women should wear long skirts and long sleeves, and men should avoid wearing shorts or tank tops. And nearly everyone from the belly dancer to the clerk carrying your bag to the taxi will expect a tip (rarely more than a dollar).

Places in Egypt, Egypt Today and Cairo's Guide, available at newsstands and hotel bookshops, list events and places to visit. One of the best guides is "Nagel's Encyclopedia Guide: Egypt."

**T**HE Cairo Symphony Orchestra will feature music by Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov at the Cairo Opera House on Jan. 27. The performance will include the "Russian Easter Overture," "Capriccio Espagnol" and "Scheherazade." On Jan. 30, the orchestra will perform "Scheherazade" and Benjamin Britten's "Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra." Tickets are about \$1.40 to \$7.50, calculated at a rate of 3.3 Egyptian pounds to \$1. For information, call 342-0603. (The dialing code for Egypt is 20; the city code for Cairo is 2.) Performances begin at 8 P.M. On Jan. 28, 29 and 31 at the opera house, the Cairo Opera Company will perform "La Bohème." Tickets \$1.40 to \$7.50.

An exhibition featuring artists from 48 countries—including France, Spain, Italy, the United States, Argentina and South Africa—will be held through March 15 at the Center of Art in Zamalek, the corner of 26th of July Street and Maad al Swissi Street. Free. 340-8211.

The Egyptian Museum is the jewel of



Cairo museums. It is on the edge of central Tahrir Square beside the Nile Hilton Hotel. The century-old sandstone building is home to the world's largest collection of Pharaonic artifacts, including the treasures of Tutankhamen. Many of the old, high-vaulted rooms are crisscrossed with objects that are haphazardly displayed. But renovations, especially in the Tutankhamen wing and in the rooms with the mummies, have begun to thrust the old museum into the modern era.

The entrance fee is \$3 with an additional \$3 fee for a still camera. Video cameras are prohibited. 754-267, 760-390.

Visitors who want to see the pristine beauty of the pyramids of Giza on the outskirts of Cairo should approach them by horseback, especially at dawn. Come up to the pyramids from behind, through the desert, and you can avoid the noise and clutter that surrounds the structures at the city's edge. Take a taxi from Tahrir Square to the stables a mile past the Sphinx (about \$4.50). Contact MG Stables (phone 385-0450) from thoroughbred to haggard trail mounts. Call Mohammed Ghunem, the owner, at 385-1241 or 385-3832.

Each night there is a sound-and-light show at the pyramids in six languages. The English show is featured every evening at 6:30 and at 7:30 on Thursday. To confirm the schedule: 385-2880. Entrance fee is about \$5.50.

Just three miles from the pyramids, along the road to Sakkarah, is the palm-lined Wissa Wassef Art Center, where artists from nearby Harrania village weave colorful, detailed wool and cotton tapestries depicting life in rural Egypt. Wool tapestries, which can be as small as a place mat or as large as a living room wall, are sold for \$15 to \$600, depending on the size and amount of work involved, and pottery for anywhere from \$4 to \$60. Brightly colored baht, also priced according to size and intricacy of design, costs \$2 to \$90. Free. 385-0403.

The imposing Citadel, begun in the 12th century, was the fortress home of the Mam-

luk sultan and later the Turkish governors. Muhammad Ali, viceroy for the Ottoman Sultan, invited 470 Mamluks there for a celebration in 1811, locked the gates and had them massacred, breaking the power of the Mamluks in Egypt. Admission about \$4.25.

Egypt's oldest Coptic churches are in the southern district of Old Cairo within the walls of the partly preserved Roman fortress of Babylon. The Abu Serga (St. Sergius) church off Mari Gerges Street, dating from the fourth to fifth century, is where Joseph, Mary and Jesus are popularly believed to have stayed after fleeing Herod's troops for the safety of Egypt. Free. 362-6987.

The earliest known Christian church in Egypt is the nearby al-Moallaqa, or "hanging church," founded in the fourth century and dedicated to the Virgin. It sits on the bastions flanking the southwest gate of the fortress of Babylon. It has earned the name because of its precarious perch over open foundations below the structure. Free admission. 363-6305.

A few alleys away is the Ben Ezra Synagogue, which contains documents of ancient Jewish life such as a Torah on gazelle skin (fifth century B.C.) and a medieval manuscript known as the "Atlas of Moses." Free admission.

**T**O get a taste of Islamic Cairo, visit the al-Azhar, or "most blooming," mosque, in Hussein Square on the edge of the Khan al-Khalili bazaar. Built in 972, it is the world's oldest university and the Islamic world's most prominent theological seminary. Admission \$2.

Belly dancing is as much a part of Egypt as the Nile. Fifi Abdou, one of Egypt's best, performs nightly except Wednesday at the Layaleena nightclub, usually around midnight. Make reservations at least one day in advance. The \$35 price also covers ketchab, chicken and mezza. Al-Gozrah Sheraton Hotel, Towers and Casino, level 3. South tip of Gezira Island; 341-1333.

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Australia	916-151	Ecuador	364-477	Japan (PAC)	0046-55-277	Philippines (PAC) (not only)	105-01
Australia (phone)	1-800-551-40	El Salvador +	05-356-4777	Korea (PAC)	0039-131	Philippines (PAC) (not only)	105-01
Austria	0043-087-187	Egypt (not only)	02-356-4777	Korea (PAC)	0080-12	Poland	105-01
Austria (phone)	0043-087-187	El Salvador +	191	Korea (PAC)	0080-12	Portugal	00014-000-118
Bahamas	1-800-389-2111	Finland	0043-087-187	Korea (PAC)	0080-12	Reunion	00014-000-118
Bahamas	0043-087-187	France +	19-0087	Korea (PAC)	0080-12	San Marino	00014-000-118
Bahamas	0043-087-187	Germany +	0130-0013	Korea (PAC)	0080-12	Senegal	00014-000-118
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## MARKET DIARY

Financial Sector  
Undermines Stocks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches  
NEW YORK — Stocks finished mixed on Thursday as a rebound in the Mexican stock market was offset by weakness in U.S. financial issues.

The Dow Jones industrial average finished down 3.03 points at 3,859.00, but advancing issues paced declining issues by an 11-to-10 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

The price of the benchmark 30-year U.S. Treasury bond fell

bull market in money-center bank stocks has probably ended for this cycle," said Arthur Soter of Morgan Stanley.

Other financial stocks also fell, with lower-than-expected earnings dragging Federal National Mortgage Association down 4 1/2 to 7 1/2.

The instability in Mexico and concerns that other countries might devalue their currencies lifted gold prices and gold stocks. The price of gold for February delivery on the Commodity Exchange rose \$4.10 an ounce, to \$381.40. Newmont Mining gained 1 to 3/8.

Semiconductor stocks were strong, led by Advanced Micro Devices, which rose 3 to 3 1/2. AMD reached a settlement with Intel on Wednesday that will allow it to sell clones of Intel's microprocessors.

Computer stocks rose 1 1/2 to 4 1/2 on strong earnings expectations for the fourth quarter. But Western Digital fell 2 1/2 to 16 1/2 after the company said increased competition had cut back profit margins, even as net income more than tripled.

In over-the-counter trading, Tech Data fell 4 to 1 1/2 after the computer hardware distributor said its mainframe operating system in the United States would be cut into sales growth in the fourth quarter ending Jan. 31. (Bloomberg, AP, Reuters)

## U.S. Stocks

157/32 point, to 95.21/32, taking the yield up to 7.88 percent from 7.84 percent Wednesday.

Telefonos de Mexico's American depositary receipts were the most actively traded U.S. issue, rising 1/2 to 35 1/2 in step with a recovering Mexican stock market. ADRs of Mexican companies were hard-hit by the Mexican financial crisis but have begun to rebound since President Bill Clinton pledged further U.S. support on Wednesday.

However, Citicorp plunged 1 1/2 to 38 1/2 as investors shunned assurances from the bank that the Mexican crisis would have an impact on its performance. The stock dropped even despite the bank's release of an 81 percent jump in fourth-quarter profit.

Citicorp's performance fueled sentiment that bank stocks had peaked. "We believe the

bank stocks have peaked. "We believe the

## LIRA: Currency Falls to New Low

Continued from Page 9  
coming increase in the discount rate."

The minimum rate on repurchase agreements, one of the main sources of funds for banks, rose on Thursday to 8.55 percent, its highest rate since August.

Italian banks tend to adjust their prime rates only after the Bank of Italy changes its dis-

count rate. Many analysts said the central bank was likely to increase the discount rate by 7.5 percent within the next few weeks amid concerns that inflation might rise if there is not a strong government in place to make needed cuts in the budget deficit.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

■ Mexico Haunts Dollar  
The dollar tumbled after the Deutsche mark and the yen on Thursday as investors sought a haven from countries with large debt burdens, not-

count rate. Many analysts said the central bank was likely to increase the discount rate by 7.5 percent within the next few weeks amid concerns that inflation might rise if there is not a strong government in place to make needed cuts in the budget deficit.

(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

## Foreign Exchange

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(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

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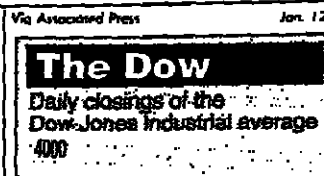
(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

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(Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)



The Dow  
Daily closings of the  
Dow Jones Industrial average  
4000

1994 J A S O N D J 1995

NYSE Most Active

Vol. High Low Last Chg.

IBM 14,430 34 1/2 34 1/2 34 1/2 -1/2

Microsoft 11,110 31 31 31 31 -1/2

Apple 10,110 29 29 29 29 -1/2

Oracle 8,110 27 27 27 27 -1/2

Sun 7,110 25 25 25 25 -1/2

HP 6,110 23 23 23 23 -1/2

Motorola 5,110 21 21 21 21 -1/2

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United 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

Northwest 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

Alaska 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

JetBlue 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

Southwest 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

Delta 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

American 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

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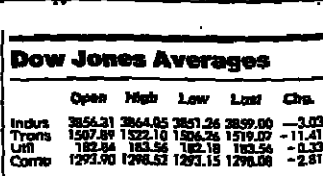
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American 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2



Dow Jones Averages

Open High Low Last Chg.

Indus 12,110 34 1/2 34 1/2 34 1/2 -1/2

Trans 11,110 32 32 32 32 -1/2

Comm 10,110 30 30 30 30 -1/2

Energy 9,110 28 28 28 28 -1/2

Health 8,110 26 26 26 26 -1/2

Telecom 7,110 24 24 24 24 -1/2

Media 6,110 22 22 22 22 -1/2

Automotive 5,110 20 20 20 20 -1/2

Food 4,110 18 18 18 18 -1/2

Chemicals 3,110 16 16 16 16 -1/2

Pharmaceuticals 2,110 14 14 14 14 -1/2

Technology 1,110 12 12 12 12 -1/2

Services 1,110 10 10 10 10 -1/2

Real Estate 1,110 8 8 8 8 -1/2

Utilities 1,110 6 6 6 6 -1/2

Insurance 1,110 4 4 4 4 -1/2

Banking 1,110 2 2 2 2 -1/2

Transportation 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

Other 1,110 0 0 0 0 -1/2

NYSE Most Active

Vol. High Low Last Chg.

IBM 14,430 34 1/2 34 1/2 34 1/2 -1/2

Microsoft 11,110 31 31 31 31 -1/2

Apple 10,110 29 29 29 29 -1/2

Oracle 8,110 27 27 27 27 -1/2

Sun 7,110 25 25 25 25 -1/2

HP 6,110 23 23 23 23 -1/2

Motorola 5,110 21 21 21 21 -1/2

Intel 4,110 19 19 19 19 -1/2

Cisco 3,110 17 17 17 17 -1/2

Novell 2,110 15 15 15 15 -1/2

3Com 1,110 13 13 13 13 -1/2

Lucent 1,110 11 11 11 11 -1/2

WorldCom 1,11



## EUROPE

# Xerox to Buy Most of Rank's Stake in Venture

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**LONDON** — Rank Organization PLC said Thursday it would sell 40 percent of its interest in Rank Xerox to its partner, Xerox Corp., for £620 million (\$968 million).

Rank Xerox, based in Marlow, England, makes Xerox office machines and sell them in more than 80 countries in Europe, Asia and Africa. After the deal, which is expected to be completed in March, Rank will hold 9 percent of Rank Xerox and Xerox will hold 91 percent.

Michael Gifford, the chief executive of Rank, said the sale was part of the company's effort to refocus on its core leisure and entertainment businesses.

But shareholders sent Rank's stock down in London amid concern that Xerox's £620 million purchase price did not reflect the true value of the stake.

Rank shares fell 20 pence, to 3.81, despite the company's separate announcement that its pretax profit rose 3.0 percent in the year to October amid strong performance in its films and television division.

Rank's earnings rose to £284 million in the year from £276.6 million the previous year.

Overall profit was swamped by a one-time charge of £111.6 million, £62 million of which was related to Rank Xerox, and the balance of which was used to close Rank's video distribution business.

In conjunction with trimming its Rank Xerox stake, Rank will buy the publicly traded shares of A. Kershaw & Sons PLC that it does not already own. Kershaw is an 86 percent-owned Rank subsidiary that indirectly owns 20 percent of its financial interest in Rank Xerox.

Rank said the net result of the transaction would result in a gain of £325 million over the book value of the Rank Xerox stake. Rank will use the proceeds of the sale to reduce its net debt and invest in developing its leisure and entertainment businesses, Mr. Gifford said.

**Bull Reports First Sales Rise In Five Years**

**Bloomberg Business News**

**PARIS** — Grouper Bull said Thursday its 1994 revenue increased nearly 6 percent, the first rise in five years.

The state-controlled computer company, which France has put up for sale, said revenue for the year rose to 29.9 billion French francs (\$5.6 billion), from 28.25 billion in 1993.

Bull is to report final results for the year after its board meeting on Feb. 17. It said growth in revenue from businesses it has entered recently offset a decline in sales from its "traditional" areas, which include main-frame computers.

The company said it had 27,902 employees at the end of 1994, compared with 31,735 a year earlier.

Industry Minister José Rossi said Wednesday that five companies had expressed an interest in buying stakes of at least 10 percent in Bull. He refused to name the companies. NEC Corp. has said it plans to raise its stake in Bull.

## Consumers Crimp German Growth But Strong Exports Help GDP Turn Around in 1994

By Brandon Mitchener

**FRANKFURT** — German exports and capital goods spending are going strong, but consumer spending remains sluggish and is likely to stay that way because of high unemployment, modest wage gains and higher taxes.

While the German economic locomotive appears on the right track to sustainable growth, various factors point to a modest performance at best, according to economists, businessmen and government officials.

On Thursday, the Federal Statistics Office announced that Western Germany's gross domestic product grew 2.3 percent in 1994 after contracting by 1.7 percent in 1993, while growth in Eastern Germany totaled 8.9 percent, compared with 5.8 percent a year earlier.

Pan-German growth was calculated at 2.8 percent after a contraction of 1.1 percent in 1993.

"There is much to suggest that growth has still not reached its high point," said Hans Günther Merk, president of the statistics office.

But some analysts were skeptical about the outlook. "There's no doubt we have a recovery, but it's not very dynamic," said Hans-Helmut Kotz, chief economist at Deutsche Girozentrale-Deutsche Kommunalbank.

"The typical German recovery over the last 40 years has begun with higher exports, followed by higher spending on investment goods and higher corporate earnings that trickled in turn into rising

employment, rising wages and rising consumer spending," he said.

"But while the exports are indeed going strong, it's questionable whether they will have the necessary multiplier effect this time."

The main problem, analysts say, is sluggish spending by consumers, which is by far the largest single component of domestic demand.

Consumer confidence remains low because of relatively high unemployment

employment, rising wages and rising consumer spending," he said, adding that the re-introduction this year of the so-called solidarity tax toward German unification in turn would drain about 25 billion to 30 billion DM (\$16 to \$20 billion) from disposable incomes.

At the same time, the specters of wage-led inflation, interest-rate increases and the damping effects of fiscal consolidation, convince many observers that the German locomotive still needs a lot of maintenance.

"Germany still has considerable structural problems in fiscal policy, labor relations and industrial competitiveness," Hans Tietmeyer, president of the Deutsche Bundesbank, said Wednesday.

Singling out wages in a speech to German craftsmen, he said "wages and taxes in many sectors are clearly too high" and were hampering the competitiveness of German industry. Unemployment, which shows no signs of a quick fix, "deprives the economy of valuable human capital," he added.

Günther Thumann, an economist at Salomon Brothers Inc., meanwhile, told Reuters there were signs that consumption was picking up.

"The good news is that private consumption expanded by almost 1 percent despite low wage growth and a rise in social security and indirect taxes last year," he said. "This is a hint that we shouldn't be too negative about consumption growth this year. We can now add private consumption growth to exports as factors driving growth."

"If we had the 1990 savings rate today, as well as tax increases and other mandatory payments that deprive people of part of their disposable income."

Moreover, the decline in private savings that has helped fund increased consumer spending over the last several years is considered unlikely to continue. The German savings ratio has fallen to around 11 percent from 14 percent in 1990, according to Franz Josef Link, an economist at the German Economic Institute, an industry think tank in Cologne.

"Consumer confidence remains low because of relatively high unemployment

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## Italy Acts To Open Telecoms Market

Bloomberg Business News

**MILAN** — Telsystem SpA said Thursday its data-transmission service would begin operating by the end of the month, following a landmark ruling by Italy's Antitrust Authority that forced the state-owned telephone company to open its network to competitors.

Analysts said the decision showed that Giuliano Amato, the newly appointed president of Italy's Antitrust Authority, is committed to enforcing European Union directives.

"Amato is making it pretty clear that he's not just there to warm the seat," Massimo Verducci of Sofipa SIM, said.

Telsystem went into business last year, offering a service that enabled branch offices of large

companies to communicate with one another by computer through phone lines.

The company complained to the Antitrust Authority when Telecom Italia SpA, the state-controlled telecommunications monopoly, refused to supply Telsystem with phone lines to link it to its clients.

"We were the first company in Italy to offer this service, and our business simply ground to a halt," said Arturo Artoni, managing director at Telsystem.

"We survived by doing consulting work while the Antitrust Authority was investigating."

The Antitrust Authority ruled Wednesday that Telecom Italia was abusing its position as the monopoly telephone-service provider.

An EU directive liberalizing data-transmission services for businesses, or so-called closed user groups, dates from 1990, but has never been made part of Italian law. Telecom Italia refused service to Telsystem's clients because Italian law had not been changed. But on the basis of the EU directive, Telsystem decided to enter the data-transmission business.

"Telecom Italia contacted our clients, trying to dissuade them from taking our service," said Mr. Artoni.

"Telecom Italia is in favor of liberalization of the market, but not in this haphazard manner," a Telecom Italia spokesman said. "The European Union says one thing, Italian law says another. If there's a clear law to follow, we'll follow it."

## Cost Cuts Aid Austrian Bank

Bloomberg Business News

**VIENNA** — Creditanstalt-Bankverein said Thursday its net profit rose 3 percent last year as it kept a lid on costs and it reduced provisions against bad debts.

Profit at Austria's second-largest bank rose to 1.5 billion schillings (\$139 million) from 1.46 billion in 1993. The bank said its provisions for bad debts fell to 2.7 billion schillings from 3.6 billion in 1993.

Operating income, however, fell 20 percent, to 4.3 billion schillings, because of weak bond prices.

It confirmed its rating of AA-

## S&P Wary on Sweden's Non-Krona Debt

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

**STOCKHOLM** — Standard & Poor's Corp. on Thursday left Sweden's key bond ratings unchanged, but the credit-rating agency revised its outlook to negative from stable for borrowing in currencies other than the krona as the country struggles with a huge debt burden and budget deficit.

"The negative foreign-currency rating outlook reflects the possibility of a downgrade should slippage in the projected economic recovery cause the government to deviate from its fiscal adjustment plan," the agency said.

It confirmed its rating of AA-

## Investor's Europe

Frankfurt DAX	London FTSE 100 Index	Paris CAC 40
2300	3300	2200
2100	3100	2000
1900	2900	1800
1700	2700	1600
1500	2500	1400
1300	2300	1200
1100	2100	1000
900	1900	800
700	1700	600
500	1500	400
300	1300	200
100	1100	0
Exchange	Index	Thursday Close
Amsterdam AEX	Stock Index	7,139.69
Brussels Stock Index		7,179.32
Frankfurt DAX		2,071.27
Frankfurt FAZ		775.24
Helsinki HEX		1,892.85
London Financial Times 30		2,341.00
London FTSE 100		3,033.20
Madrid General Index		275.95
Milan MIBTEL		9,989.00
Paris CAC 40		1,844.06
Stockholm Aftersvaerden		1,898.68
Vienna ATX Index		1,033.51
Zurich SBS		918.14
Prev. Close		2,061.05
% Change		+0.50
		+0.53
		-0.90
		-0.48
		-0.53
		-0.12
		-0.39
		-0.27
		-1.03
		-0.46
		+0.08

Sources: Reuters, AFP International Herald Tribune

## Very briefly:

- Standa SpA, the Italian supermarket chain controlled by outgoing Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's Fininvest company, said it sold its Euromercato hypermarkets to a consortium led by Benetton SpA for 971 billion lire (\$600 million).
- Portugal's Finance Ministry has approved the joint bid by Banco Comercial Portugues SA and Imperio Cia. de Seguros to acquire the entire share capital of Banco Portugues do Atlantico for 300 billion escudos (\$1.9 billion), sources said.
- Saatchi & Saatchi PLC shares touched a record low of 93.5 pence (\$1.46) but recovered to close at 97 pence, after British Airways PLC and Mirror Group Newspapers PLC said they were leaving the advertising agency. The stock closed at 107.5 pence on Wednesday.
- Germany's securities oversight agency said it was examining whether VIAG AG breached a new securities law by delaying an announcement of a venture with British Telecommunications PLC.
- Fokker NV said it was offering to cut the price of its aircraft to secure an order from Scandinavian Airlines System in a deal expected to be worth up to 15 billion kroner (\$2 billion).
- Bayer AG said it intended to spend \$13 billion in research and capital investments worldwide by 1997, of which 20 percent would go to U.S. operations.
- Unilever Group said it would roll out a new detergent in its Omo/Persil range throughout Europe this year to defend its shrinking market share.

Reuters, AP, Bloomberg, AFP, AFX

## NYSE

Thursday's Closing  
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

12 Month High Low Stock Div Yld PE 100 High Low Latest Chg

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Continued from Page 12

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Herald Tribune

## DUBAI MUNICIPALITY SUBJECT: CHILDREN MUSEUM

Dubai Municipality wishes to prequalify Consultants experienced in the field of child development through educational and practical experience and interaction in a Museum and Science Centre environment.

The Consultant shall be required to design and supervise the construction of a suitable purpose made building for the above purpose.

Interested Consultants should contact Dubai Municipality to obtain Prequalification Documents from:

Office of Assistant Director General for Roads and General Projects Affairs  
Dubai Municipality  
P.O. Box 67  
Dubai, U.A.E.  
Telephone No. 971-4-2063651  
Fax No. 971-4-222825  
Closing date for collection of Prequalification Forms shall be 31 January, 1995

## GARTMORE JAPAN WARRANT FUND

Société d'investissement à Capital Variable  
39, Allée Scheffer,  
L-2520 Luxembourg  
RC Luxembourg B23.663

## NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

The Shareholders of GARTMORE JAPAN WARRANT FUND are hereby convened to attend the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders to be held at the registered office of the Company on February 3, 1995 at 11:30 a.m. with the following Agenda:

1. Reports of the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Independent Auditor.
2. Approval of the Statement of Net Assets as at September 30, 1994, and the Statement of Operations for the Year ended September 30, 1994.
3. Appropriation of net results.
4. Discharge of the Directors and the Independent Auditor in respect of the carrying out of their duties during the financial year ended September 30, 1994.
5. Re-election of the Directors to serve until the next Annual General Meeting in 1996 (ratification of the cooptation dated June 15, 1994 of Mrs. Agnès Larnelle as Director of the Sicav in replacement of Mr. Pierre Delandmeter resigning and ratification of the cooptation dated August 31, 1994 of Mr. Andrew Fleming as Director of the Sicav in replacement of Mr. Bruce Seton resigning).
6. Re-election of the Independent Auditor to serve until the next Annual General Meeting in 1996.
7. Miscellaneous.

Decisions on the above items require no quorum and may be passed by a simple majority of the votes present or represented.

The holders of bearer shares should deposit their shares at least five clear days in advance of the meeting at Banque Indus Luxembourg, 39, Allée Scheffer, L-2520 Luxembourg, Grand Duché de Luxembourg.

By order of the Board of Directors.







## ASIA/PACIFIC

# Keidanren Says Closed Markets Imperil Japan

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — A Japanese business leader said Thursday the country was running up against an "extremely thick wall" in trying to free its economy but warned that deregulation was inevitable to avoid economic decline.

Shoichi Toyoda, chairman of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, or Keidanren, and chairman of Toyota Motor Corp., said signs of recovery from Japan's longest postwar recession were misleading.

"We have the sense we've reached the bottom, but due to the aftermath of the financial speculation of the 1980s and the yen's appreciation, we are not yet out of the tunnel," he told the French Chamber of Commerce.

"There are several difficulties ahead, including the stagnation of technical innovation, internal problems with corporate competitiveness being eroded by the stronger yen, and coping with the ageing of the population," he said.

"This could even lead to the decline of the Japanese economy, and this is the reason why deregulation is mandatory for Japan. Deregulation will narrow the price gaps between Japan and foreign countries, boost domestic demand and give an impetus to economic activity."

Mr. Toyoda said the Keidanren, the country's most influential business group, was still waiting for a response to the list of 456 proposed deregulatory measures it has submitted to the government.

"We want a timetable to be set with precise dates to let us evaluate precisely how measures are proceeding," he said. (AFP, AFP)

## Labor Market Tightens

Nearly 15 percent of Japanese university seniors who wanted to work after graduation this spring have not found jobs because of the recession, an Education Ministry report said Thursday. Agency France-Presse said.

"The conditions on the labor market for new graduates remain harsh," a ministry official was quoted as saying by the Asahi Shimbun Thursday.

About 127,000 seniors are still seeking work with less than three months to go before graduation. Japan's labor market for senior-level students dropped to a 43-year low last year.

In Japan, summer is the job-hunting season for seniors graduating the following March. In the past, they had little problem finding work, but the recession has drastically changed the picture in recent years.

# Turbulence Ahead for Qantas Sale

## People Are 'Loath to Invest' While Market Falls

Bloomberg Business News

CANBERRA — The government of Australia is due to sell its remaining 75 percent stake in Qantas Airways Ltd. in the first half of this year, but many analysts said the market would have trouble swallowing such a large offering.

The government must sell the state-owned carrier by June 30, the end of the financial year, or cope with a 2 billion Australian-dollar (\$1.5 billion) hole in the federal budget. That is the price the government is hoping to get for its shares.

A public offering of the world's 10th-largest airline has been postponed twice since the first 25 percent was sold to British Airways PLC in 1992. The delays were blamed on a worldwide slump in the airline industry, and on the sorry state of Qantas's books.

The government has been scrambling to spruce up the airline's finances and image. It paid off 1.35 billion dollars in Qantas debt, reshuffled its board and management and slammed the door on rival Air New Zealand's entry into the domestic market.

The airline unveiled a new look last August, with new staff uniforms, redecorated passenger interiors and even a couple of jets painted in Aboriginal design.

That may not be enough to attract investors, analysts said, because stocks in Australia and around the world have been performing poorly.

"The outlook of the equity market for the first half of 1995 will make it difficult for such a large float to meet with much support," said Glenn Woolley, an executive at ANZ Funds Management.

The benchmark All Ordinaries stock index fell 12 percent in 1994, and it is down almost 3 percent so far this year.

"Certainly it would be difficult to sell in this market," said David Spry, an analyst with F.W. Mohr & Co. in Melbourne. "The general sentiment is that that good at the moment. Qantas should have substantial appeal, but people are loath to invest right now."

Murmurs about a possible crash landing for the sale have not deterred the government, at least not publicly.

"It remains the government's intention to sell Qantas this financial year," a

now we're seeing a recovery in airline stocks and in the airline industry in Asia," Mr. Koo said.

Prior to September 1992, Qantas was exclusively an international airline. In that month, it was merged with Australian Airlines, the state-owned domestic carrier. Three months later, the government began the airline's privatization, with the sale of a 25 percent stake of the merged airline to British Airways for 655 million dollars.

Under current policy, foreign ownership in Qantas will be limited to 35 percent. However, the government is considering increasing that ceiling to 45 percent, a sign to some that it needs wide foreign participation to make the sale a success.

Investors will not make up their minds about the sale until they see the final print, analysts in New York said.

"The attitude from the part of the market on the part of investors is: When the documents are prepared, we'll be happy to have a look at it," said Peter Graves, who handles Australian stocks for CS First Boston Group in New York.

Qantas posted a profit of 156.1 million dollars in the year to last June 30, reversing a loss of 376.8 million dollars the previous year. Its debt-to-equity ratio, including operations leases, was 74.3 percent, little changed from a year earlier.

"While we don't expect to see a similar profit growth in percentage terms this year, we know that to be a successful public company, profits must continue to increase," Gary Pemberton, chief executive of Qantas said.

He refused to discuss specifics of the share sale, saying he was prohibited by law from disclosing any information that might go into the prospectus.

Spokesman for Finance Minister Kim C. Beazley said, "But the government reserves the right to remove Qantas from this year's asset-sale program if share-market conditions deteriorate."

Overseas analysts, citing an improvement in the global airline industry, generally were more upbeat than their domestic counterparts concerning the environment for the Qantas sale.

"Qantas is not just dependent on domestic sales but on the world recovery generally," said Zeyang Koo, a senior analyst with CS First Boston (Hong Kong) Ltd. "It seems that May will be a good time to sell Qantas."

"In the past four years the airline industry hasn't been doing very well, but

now we're seeing a recovery in airline stocks and in the airline industry in Asia," Mr. Koo said.

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**Thursday's 4 p.m.**  
This list compiled by the AP, consists of the 1,000 most traded securities in terms of dollar value. It is updated twice a year.

12 Month High Low Stock	Div	Yld	PE	St 100%	High	Low	Latest Ch'g
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A		B-C	
16	AAAC	40	17
17	AAAD	15	18
18	AAAE	15	19
19	AAAF	15	20
20	AAAG	15	21
21	AAAH	15	22
22	AAAI	15	23
23	AAAJ	15	24
24	AAAK	15	25
25	AAAL	15	26
26	AAAM	15	27
27	AAAN	15	28
28	AAAO	15	29
29	AAAP	15	30
30	AAAQ	15	31
31	AAAR	15	32
32	AAAS	15	33
33	AAAT	15	34
34	AAAU	15	35
35	AAAV	15	36
36	AAAW	15	37
37	AAAX	15	38
38	AAAY	15	39
39	AAAZ	15	40
40	AABA	15	41
41	AABB	15	42
42	AABC	15	43
43	ABAC	15	44
44	ABAD	15	45
45	ABAE	15	46
46	ABAF	15	47
47	ABAG	15	48
48	ABAH	15	49
49	ABAI	15	50
50	ABAJ	15	51
51	ABAK	15	52
52	ABAL	15	53
53	ABAM	15	54
54	ABAN	15	55
55	ABAO	15	56
56	ABAP	15	57
57	ABAQ	15	58
58	ABAR	15	59
59	ABAS	15	60
60	ABAT	15	61
61	ABAU	15	62
62	ABAV	15	63
63	ABAW	15	64
64	ABAX	15	65
65	ABAY	15	66
66	ABAZ	15	67
67	ABBA	15	68
68	ABBB	15	69
69	ABBC	15	70
70	ABCC	15	71
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309	ABCH	15	310
310	ABCI	15	311
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312	ABCL	15	313
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315	ABCO	15	316
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317	ABCC	15	318
318	ABCD	15	319
319	ABCE	15	320
320	ABCF	15	321
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326	ABCM	15	327
327	ABCN	15	328
328	ABCO	15	329
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331	ABCD	15	332
332	ABCE	15	333
333	ABCF	15	334
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339	ABCM	15	340
340	ABCN	15	341
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365	ABCM	15	366
366	ABCN	15	367
367	ABCO	15	368
368	ABCP	15	369
369	ABCC	15	370
370	ABCD	15	371
371	ABCE	15	372
372	ABCF	15	373
373	ABCG	15	374
374	ABCH	15	375
375	ABCI	15	376
376	ABCK	15	377
377	ABCL	15	378
378	ABCM	15	379
379	ABCN	15	380
380	ABCO	15	381
381	ABCP	15	382
382	ABCC	15	383
383	ABCD	15	384
384	ABCE		

**Thursday's Closing**  
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect trade prices elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

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12 Month	High Low	Stk	Div	Yld	PE	100s	%	High	Low	Latest	Over
1970	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1971	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1972	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1973	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1974	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1975	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1976	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1977	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1978	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1979	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1980	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1981	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1982	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1983	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1984	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1985	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1986	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1987	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1988	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1989	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1990	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1991	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1992	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1993	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1994	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1995	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1996	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1997	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1998	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
1999	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2000	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2001	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2002	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2003	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2004	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2005	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2006	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2007	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2008	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2
2009	10 1/2	10 1/2						10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2	10 1/2

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12 Month High Low		Div	Yld	PE	52 Wk High	Low	Last	Chg
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100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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# SPORTS

## Sampras Is Dealt A Tough Draw in Australian Open

*The Associated Press*  
MELBOURNE — Pete Sampras has a potentially tough draw when he begins his defense of the Australian Open men's singles title at the National Tennis Center on Monday. For No. 2 seed Andre Agassi, things look a lot easier.

Sampras, the world's top-ranked player, on Thursday was drawn to face Italian baseliner Gianluca Pozzi in his first-round match. He may face fellow American Jared Palmer in the second round and could meet Magnus Larsson of Sweden in the round of 16, and two-time champion Jim Courier or former Wimbledon titlist Michael Stich of Germany in the quarterfinals.

"I'm sure Pete Sampras is looking through his draw and finding he has a very difficult route to the finals," three-time Australian champion Mats Wilander said. "He's playing very dangerous players."

Agassi, who will play in the first Grand Slam championship of the year for the first time, was drawn to face qualifiers in his opening two matches and is in a weaker bottom half of the draw.

The toughest opponent the U.S. Open champion might face before the quarters could be Australia's Patrick Rafter, who beat him in straight sets in an exhibition in Adelaide on Wednesday while Agassi was still jet-lagged and having trouble adjusting to the twilight.

Todd Martin, the No. 8 seed and runner-up to Sampras last year, is seeded to meet Agassi in the quarters.

Boris Becker of Germany, the

No. 3 seed and winner in Australia in 1991, will play Patrick McEnroe of the United States in his first-round match. He defeated the American in the Australian Open semifinals in 1991.

Two-time champion Stefan Edberg opens against one of Australia's most promising young players, Mark Philippoussis, who was given a wild card into the tournament, while No. 4 seed Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia will face German left-hander Carl-Uwe Steeb.

Paul Kilderry of Australia, a 21-year-old who was given a late wild card, will play No. 5 seed Michael Chang of the United States.

Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash will face American Alex O'Brien, while Wilander will meet Dutchman Jacco Eltingh.

Two-time winner Courier, seeded No. 9, plays David Rikl of the Czech Republic.

The draw for the women's singles will be made Friday.

Michael Chang rallied twice to beat Boris Becker, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7-3), and advance to the final of the Colonial Classic tournament at Melbourne.

Becker led by a set and 4-2 before Chang recovered to win the second set. The German then served for the match at 6-5 in the third set before Chang surged back again.

Chang's persistently deep returns finally forced Becker into some crucial errors.

Becker served two double faults when he served for the match and also made several errors in the tiebreaker — including missing a simple volley at 3-5.



A group of skiers coming off a mostly bare slope in the Sierra Nevada mountains where the world championships will be held.

## In Spain, a 'White-Mare' on the Slopes

*Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches*  
MADRID — With less than three weeks to go before they start, a shortage of snow in the Sierra Nevada mountains has put the World Alpine Ski Championships in jeopardy.

"It certainly is a nightmare — or should I say a 'white-mare,'" said Jeronimo Paez, general secretary of the local organizing committee.

About \$1.2 billion in private and public funds has been invested in the ski resort in southern Spain and the surrounding region since Sierra Nevada was awarded the event in 1990.

The resort boasts one of Europe's largest fleets of snow-making cannons, which Paez and skiing's world governing body, FIS, hope will ensure the staging of Spain's biggest sports event since the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

The competition is scheduled for Jan. 30 to Feb. 12. Unconfirmed reports say FIS will make a final decision Jan. 20 on whether to keep the championships in Spain or move them elsewhere. Two European resorts — Veysonnaz in Switzerland and Saalbach in Austria — are reportedly offering to take over the event.

Paez and Gian Franco Kasper, general secretary of FIS, insist there are no plans to move the event.

"I think I'd kill myself first, after all the time and money we've spent," Paez said, still able to joke. "We can hold the event with the artificial snow we produce. It may not be the most beautiful, but it can be done."

Kasper, in Kitzbühel, Austria, for a weekend of men's World Cup races — two downhill, a slalom and a combined

event — said: "It is either the Sierra Nevada or nothing. It could be a purely artificial snow championship."

"Some resorts have said they are ready to have the championships," Kasper added. "But FIS has not contacted them."

Ironically, the lack of snow in southern Spain contrasts with a deluge in the Alps. The men's super-G race in Flachau, Austria, was called off on Tuesday because of heavy snowfalls. And training sessions at Kitzbühel were called off on Wednesday and Thursday.

The latest plans, said Günter Hujara, the FIS race director, were for a double sprint downhill to be run Friday at Kitzbühel, with a regular downhill on Saturday and the slalom on Sunday, then a super-G on Monday to replace the race from Flachau.

(A.P., Reuters)

## The FIFA Purge

*International Herald Tribune*  
LONDON — The purge at FIFA goes on, with two senior executives of FIFA House in Zurich being removed this week with such a lack of sentiment that fear of angering "the old man" now paralyzes the administration of soccer's governing body.

There is some confusion as to who most wanted Guido Tognoni and Miguel Galan, the director of public relations and press, and the director of competitions, respectively, to be fired. But the name on the dismissal notice is clear: Dr. João Havelange.

FIFA's president was en route home to Rio de Janeiro when Tognoni entered FIFA House and was handed the letter instructing him to clear his desk within the day and leave his keys. "It felt as if I was being treated like a criminal after 11 years without doing anything wrong," Tognoni said Thursday from his home in Zurich. But if it is bad for him, it is worse for Miguel Galan, who has been at FIFA for 20 years. Galan, 47, fled the Chile that was ruled by General Pinochet, and friends insist he was ever the diplomat, never uttering a word out of place.

Tognoni will say no more while he seeks legal recompense. He does, however, refute suggestions that a public chastising of Franz Beckenbauer, president of Bayern Munich, annoyed the German and led to his dismissal. Havelange took umbrage; Beckenbauer assured Tognoni there were no hard feelings.

However, no one disputes that FIFA's general secretary, Sepp Blatter, agreed to sacrifice two of his closest aides, or that Tognoni and Galan had questioned the promotion of the Swiss referee, Michel Zamboni, as deputy general secretary with authority over them. Insiders say that Tognoni and Galan objected to the promotion in "a robust discussion" with Blatter. The general secretary, when the dismissals were announced, said, "They couldn't accept that I appointed the youngest of the management group as my deputy. It was them or me. I can only work on the basis of trust and confidence."

What confidence has been retained in President Havelange is another matter. Since early last year, when Blatter's name was briefly put forward as a candidate to succeed the Brazilian, now 74, in the 1994 FIFA presidential election, fear and suspicion has undermined the organization. Havelange appeared to blame Tognoni for the press "orchestrating" Blatter's putative bid. Many who are familiar with the president's ego predicted the purge that began in October and continues.

IN THE EVENT, no one dared stand against his desire to ride out a sixth term — in a wheelchair if necessary. Havelange then redrew the FIFA committee lists, axing able and learned members. He does not even bother to deny that he is maneuvering Ricardo Teixeira, his son-in-law, into a dynastic succession.

The opposition just melts away. This week was supposed to have seen a major challenge. Havelange was warned by Sultan Ahmad Shah, president of the Asian Confederation — which has almost a quarter of FIFA's 191 nations — that the leaders of the five continental federations would meet in Riyadh to oppose the recent unconstitutional changes. But no dissent has emerged, at least in public. Havelange, as is his custom, stayed barely two days as he ambled through the corridors "leading Teixeira by the hand," a source said.

Meanwhile, in Zurich, Blatter appears to be becoming ever more isolated, his FIFA friends in high places being shed by the month. His staff afraid of losing their jobs.

"Nobody opposes Havelange," said one insider on the condition of anonymity, "because... well because nobody opposes him. Even at 78 he has too much personal power."

Europe, the logical place from which a successor to come, has no credible candidate. Africa has one, Issa Hayatou, but that confederation is not likely to command global support.

And Asia? The threat seemed very real in December. Asia is the next World Cup money pot, in the year 2002, unless Havelange's friends in Mexico land their third tournament in 30 years. But the very fact that South Korea and Japan are rivals bidding for 2002 makes them vulnerable to division.

FIFA followers conclude that only death will end Havelange's dictatorship. In that event, his friend, the Mexican TV entrepreneur Guillermo Canedo, a mere 74, would take the chair until a meeting that comes every two years.

By then, it is assumed, the old man's ghost will have ushered in his son-in-law, unopposed.

Rob Hughes is on the staff of The Times.

## Weather Puts a Damper on America's Cup Trials

By Barbara Lloyd  
New York Times Service

SAN DIEGO — Call it weather, or call it calamity, but uneasiness has set the stage here for the start of the first set of America's Cup defenders trials.

Even Team Dennis Conner seemed to have a case of the jitters, despite having the equivalent of a millennium of cup racing experience compared with its two relatively neophyte defense rivals, America3 and PACT 95.

"Dennis said the other night that this cup feels a little like 1980," said Tom Whidden, the tactician who has sailed with Conner in five America's Cup competitions. "We don't feel quite as prepared as we'd like to be, and the weather hasn't helped."

In 1980, Conner sailed the 12-meter (39-foot) Freedom, a new boat that went on to successfully defend the America's Cup. But in the first trial race of that season, Freedom lost to Courageous, an

older boat skippered by the indefatigable Ted Turner.

But there are other factors in motion. Rain and wind, although far less torrential the last few days than in the rest of California, robbed the cup teams of precious practice time on the water. That included the seven foreign challengers, who begin their trial series Saturday.

San Diego had its share of fierce weather last week when a tornado ripped through the PACT 95 compound, causing severe damage to the team's boat, Young America, and adjoining buildings. PACT asked for extra time to get ready for the elimination trials as it scurried to repair its 75-foot yacht.

Officials at the San Diego Yacht Club made a concession. They scheduled Conner's boat, Stars & Stripes 95, in races against America3, the all-woman team, for three days straight, and it was those two boats that were to begin the defenders trials. But their first race

Thursday was called off when high seas both in the mouth of the harbor and offshore prevented the boats from reaching the race course.

Young America, with the change, is to sail its first trial race Sunday rather than Friday, weather permitting.

"We need right up to the first day of our race to physically get ready," said Robert Hopkins Jr., vice president of PACT 95. "If they hadn't given us time until Sunday, we would, in effect, have been doing sea trials during racing."

Young America, which had a 7-foot gash and another hole in the port side, was to be relaunched Thursday.

PACT has estimated as much as \$650,000 in lost or broken equipment from the storm; the other cup camps received only minor damage. But even for them, weather has become an ogre in a setting where sunshine is touted as a daily elixir.

Leslie Egnot, a helmswoman for

America3, said her team agreed to the schedule change given the plight of PACT 95.

"We're only as good as how hard we're pushed," she said, referring to America3's willingness to race without a break for three days. "We're happy to be a help as best we can."

The first round-robin, which ends Jan. 20, awards 1 point to each boat that wins. But as the racing format moves into its fourth round in March, a victory scores a boat 7 points.

The relative weight in scoring has turned the first round into a catch-as-catch-can kind of competition. Most teams concede they won't be using their best equipment in the early days.

"We need to improve by fifteen-hundredths to two-tenths of a knot to win the America's Cup," said Paul Cayard, the former skipper for Italy who is now sailing as a strategist on Conner's boat. "This game is a long game."

## SIDELINES

### Leeds Still Awaiting Yeboah Arrival

LEEDS, England (AP) — Ghanaian striker Anthony Yeboah's transfer from Eintracht Frankfurt to Leeds has been held up by work permit problems.

Leeds had planned to have him in the lineup for Saturday's match against Southampton at Elland Road. But the Department of Employment told the club Thursday to delay Yeboah's arrival from Germany until a work permit has been granted.

### Sprinter Okeke Fails U.S. Drug Test

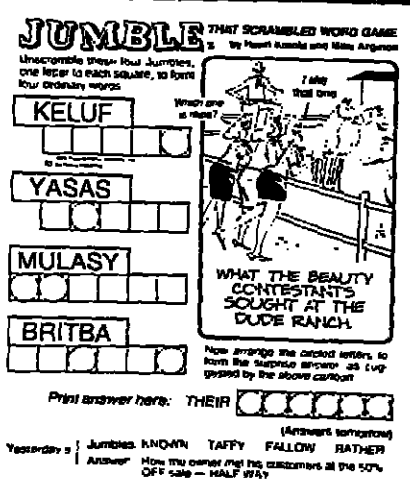
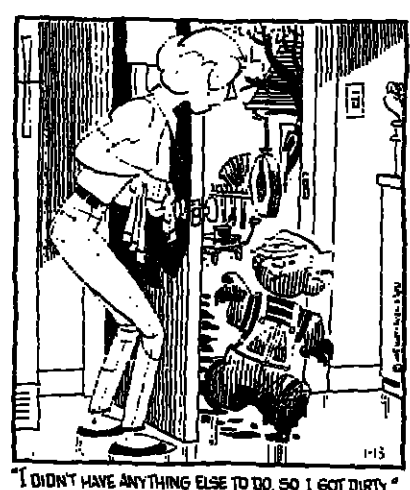
OSLO (Reuters) — Aham Okeke, one of Europe's top sprinters, tested positive for steroids while training last month at Abilene Christian University in Texas. Norway's Athletics Association announced.

The Nigerian-born Okeke was barred from last year's European championships in Helsinki after failing a drug test, but was cleared of deliberately using a banned substance. If the second U.S. sample tests positive, the IAAF could ban him for life.

### For the Record

Dennis Erickson, who coached the University of Miami to two national championships and a 63-9 record from 1989 through 1994, has been hired to coach the NFL's Seattle Seahawks. (AP)

## DENNIS THE MENACE



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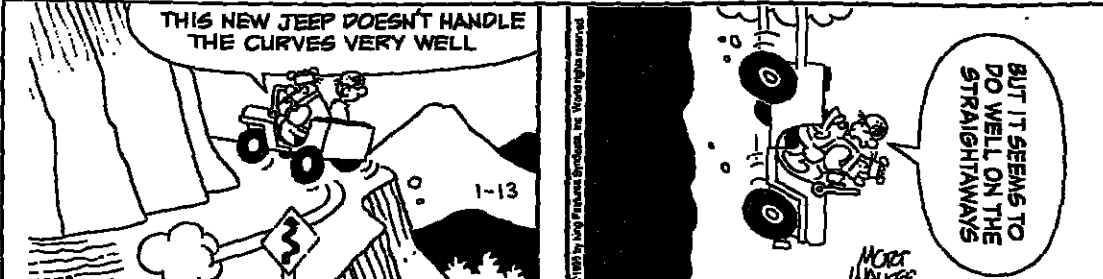
## PEANUTS



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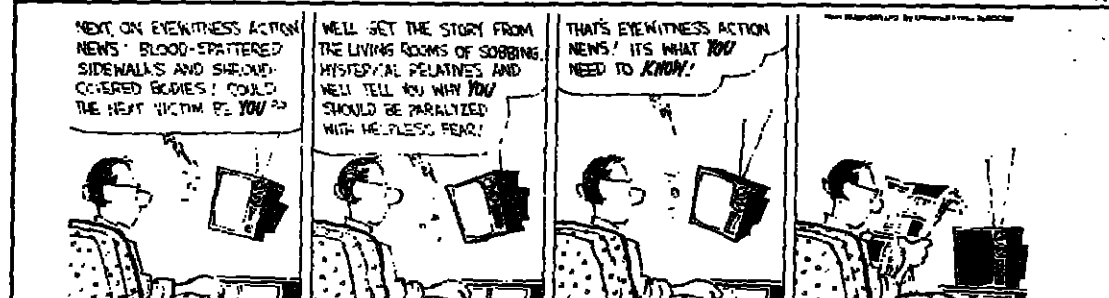
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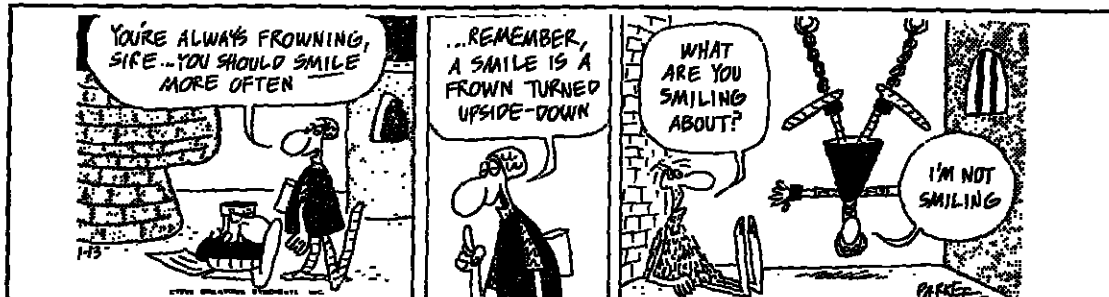
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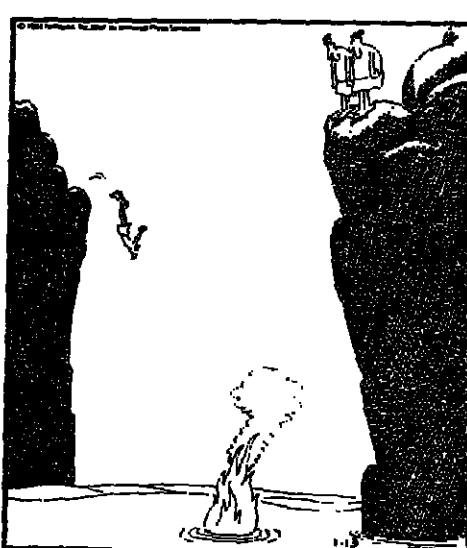
## CALVIN AND HOBBS



## WIZARD of ID



## THE FAR SIDE



When cliff divers belly flop

## BLONDIE





## SPORTS

## Duke Has Fallen On Hard Times

The last time Duke lost its first three Atlantic Coast Conference games was 1981-82, in Mike Krzyzewski's second season as coach.

The last time the Blue Devils lost three straight games was 1988-89, the second of five straight seasons the team by then known as Coach K. led them to the semifinals of the NCAA tournament.

A 74-64 loss at No. 14 Wake Forest on Wednesday night tied both those streaks, and Krzyzewski wasn't even on the bench to see it.

The last two losses have occurred with Krzyzewski gone from the bench with a recurring

COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS

renewal of the back problems that led to surgery on Oct. 22. Doctors say a 10-day break from work following the surgery was not enough; they now say he will be out indefinitely until his back is completely healed.

"We've lost a couple of games. We can't feel sorry for ourselves," said the interim head coach, Pete Gaudet. "We have to build from some adversity. Hopefully, we'll be able to do this."

Three losses by almost every school qualifies as adversity. At Duke, where the current ranking of 16th is the lowest since 1987, it's a relic of the days before Krzyzewski turned the Blue Devils into a synonym for success.

Duke has won the ACC regular-season title three of the last four seasons, and only once in those championship years did his teams lose more than three conference games all season.

They have won at least 23 games every season since 1983-84, and won consecutive national titles in 1991 and 1992.

Randolph Childress scored 22 of his 24 points in the second half as Wake Forest (9-1, 2-0 ACC) won its seventh straight overall and its fourth in a row over Duke (9-5, 0-3).

Childress scored nine points in a 14-0 run that gave Wake Forest a 51-37 lead.

Jeff Capel led Duke with 23 points.

No. 2 Connecticut 85, Pittsburgh 76: The visiting Huskies (11-0, 4-0 Big East) had to overcome a 25-point deficit to remain Division I's only unbeaten team.

They trailed by 14-2 barely five minutes into the game and by 40-15 at 4:42 left in the first half. But Ray Allen scored 19 of his 27 points in the second half.

Jaime Peterson had 18 points and 13 rebounds for the Panthers (4-8, 0-4), who are down to only seven scholarships players because of injuries.

No. 4 North Carolina 86, No. 22 Georgia Tech 75: Jerry Stackhouse had 23 points and Rashad Wallace 22 as the host Tar Heels (11-1, 2-1 ACC) ended a three-game losing streak to the Yellow Jackets (9-5, 1-2).

No. 5 Arkansas 79, Mississippi St. 74: Corliss Williamson had 24 points and Scotty Thurman 17, including the game-winning shot with 38 seconds left, as the Razorbacks (13-2, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) remained unbeaten in 23 games at home.

Thurman's short jumper after he intercepted a pass gave Arkansas a 76-74 lead. The Bulldogs (8-3, 2-1), who trailed

by as many as 19 points in the first half, were led by Marcus Grant's 20 points.

Indiana 89, No. 11 Michigan St. 82: The Hoosiers (10-5, 2-1 Big Ten) won their 50th consecutive home game, the nation's longest current streak, despite a record-setting performance by Michigan State's Shawn Rensper.

The senior guard set an Assembly Hall record for an opponent with 40 points and tied the conference mark with nine 3-pointers as the Spartans (9-2, 2-1) cut a 21-point second-half deficit to four.

Alan Henderson had 28 points and 10 rebounds to lead Indiana, which didn't have a field goal in the final 7:20. The Hoosiers scored their final 14 points from the free-throw line.

Virginia 61, No. 18 Clemson 37: Cory Alexander got 16 points for the host Cavaliers (9-3, 3-0) while the Tigers (10-1, 1-1 ACC) scored their fewest points since 1970 and had their second-worst shooting performance ever (12-for-50).

Clemson shot 24 percent and the only time it was worse than that was last year's visit to Charlottesville, when the Tigers shot 23.8 percent in a 52-44 loss.

Michigan 83, No. 19 Iowa 82: Ray Jackson and Jimmy King had 21 and 15 points, respectively, and got the deciding basket with 11 seconds left in the second overtime.

King hit a cutting Jackson with a pinpoint pass for a dunk that made it 83-82. The Spartans (8-6, 2-1 Big Ten) hadn't led from midway through the second half until then; Iowa (11-4, 1-2) lost its 14th straight in Crisler Arena.

Other major college scores

San Francisco 99, Arizona 74: The San Francisco 49ers, having fled California's heavy rains for the Arizona desert, finally got in a mostly dry run for this week-end's NFC championship game.

Some light sprinkles fell as the 49ers went through the first of two days of practice at the Arizona Cardinals' training headquarters, but nothing like the incessant rains that drove them out of state for workouts heading into their straight title game against Dallas.

"It's not a huge distraction," center Bart Oates said. "As a matter of fact, I think it's an advantage because we have 48 hours to concentrate solely on getting ready for the Dallas Cowboys."

"I really doesn't matter," said receiver Jerry Rice. "We had a frame of mind to do whatever it takes to win the game."

The 49ers were to return home after Thursday's practice and work out Friday on rain-soaked fields at their Santa Clara headquarters.

Their coach, George Seifert, first considered moving the team to Los Angeles, but the storms settled in there, too.

"A couple guys talked about Las Vegas, but, uh, talk about distractions, that was out, too," he said.

"Noah's Ark just turned left on Tasman Boulevard."

Tight end Brent Jones said that it was "probably better that we've skipped town. I mean, every time you turn on the TV, you won't have to see the Dallas Cowboys guaranteeing their next game. Nobody cares about the game in Arizona."

The Cowboys certainly have cornered the markets on guarantees. First, Irvin promised another Super Bowl trip, and

Young said, "You've just got to protect yourself."

Certainly, a late hit on Young, courtesy of Chicago safety Shaun Gayle, has the Cowboys thinking about a copycat crime. But, asked if Young will now think twice about scrambling, Seifert said: "That's part of Steve's game. I'm not going to tell him, 'I don't want you to run at all this ball game.'"

This sort of verbal abuse from the Cowboys is nothing new. "That's how Dallas prepares themselves," Seifert said, but neither is Young's scrambling. In the last three games between the teams, Young has darted for 131 yards and three touchdowns, and the Cowboys have not knocked him unconscious yet. (AP, NYT)

and we moved football fields," he said, stressing that the deal was most unfair to players 28 and 29 years old and "the young guys who will have to wait 14 years before they can become free agents."

If, as expected, the new six-year agreement is ratified by the players, training camps will then be opened. The first games of the season are expected to begin by the end of next week.

Bettman said a shortened, 48-game season, plus all the playoff rounds, will be played. If so, teams would play only intra-conference games, with the season expected to end on May 6 and the Stanley Cup playoffs ending by July 1.

The revised schedule would mean Eastern teams would play only Eastern teams, and Western teams would play only Western teams.

It is expected that teams would play more games within their division than against those teams in the other division of the same conference.

The East has 14 teams, the West 12, so the schedules would be somewhat unbalanced. The seven Atlantic Division teams, for example, would play each other three times at home and three times on the road. That would make 36 games. The 12 other games would be against the seven Northeast teams, one each at home, once on the road.

In terms of travel, the schedule would favor the Eastern Conference because the Western Conference extends from Toronto and Detroit to Dallas in the Southwest to Los Angeles on the West Coast.

(NYT, WP, AP)

## Most Players Appear to Accept the NHL's Proposal



Vayacheslav Kozlov (left) and Sergei Bortin of the Red Wings at a workout in Detroit.

## More Grumbling Heard From Owners' Ranks

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Although some National Hockey League players said they are unhappy with the owner's proposal that has been accepted by the union, the majority are expected to approve a contract that will save the season.

"It puts a smile on my face," said the Florida Panthers' goaltender, John Vanbiesbroeck. "I think everybody put their passion aside and cooler heads prevailed on our side to recommend this agreement."

The players were voting on the proposal by secret ballot Thursday and Friday morning. The NHL commissioner, Gary Bettman, and the union's executive director, Bob Goodenow, have scheduled a news conference Friday in New York to announce the results.

"It feels good; hopefully, we get to do the real job soon," Temmu Sallanne said Wednesday during a last visit this season to his home arena, the Helsinki Ice Hall.

The Winnipeg Jets' 24-year-old goal-scoring ace and Jarri Kurri, the Los Angeles Kings' stalwart, said they had believed all along that the NHL season would be salvaged by an agreement. Both have been playing in Finland during the lockout.

Sallanne said he thought the long wait was worth it for the players, especially when it came to the exclusion of the so-called salary cap.

"Once in a while, there was frustration when the thing didn't seem to be resolved," Sallanne told a local newspaper.

There was frustration among the owners, too, Abe Pollin, the owner of the Washington Capit-

als, during one of the two league conference calls on Tuesday, even challenged Bettman's authority.

Pollin believed that Bettman, who had spent hours retooling a so-called "final" offer made to the union last Saturday, could not tinker with that plan. Pollin proposed telling the players to take it or leave it.

But, said Peter Pocklington of the Edmonton Oilers, "It was clear we told Gary he could still negotiate the deal."

More ire came from Mike Ilitch, owner of the Detroit Red Wings, and William Wirtz, the Chicago Blackhawks' owner, who were angered by the absence of a salary cap or when to grant unrestricted free agency.

"We were in agreement with Abe," said Jim Devellano, the senior vice president of the Red Wings. "Abe had a right to be that way. He's been an owner since 1974."

Some league and team executives characterized the uproar as merely a dispute among entrepreneurs with different views, while others said they felt "embarrassed" for the sleep-deprived Bettman, who handled the discontent calmly, letting the dissenters vent their frustrations before moving on.

"It was loud, but I don't know if it was upsetting," Pocklington said. "I kind of enjoyed it. But for anyone to say that Abe Pollin was the only one who wanted to stop hockey was wrong. There were others."

Tommy Albelin, the Swedish defenseman of the New Jersey Devils, was one of the players who was less than pleased.

"The owners moved inches,

## SCOREBOARD

## BASKETBALL

## NBA Standings

## EASTERN CONFERENCE

## Atlantic Division

## W L Pct GB

## Orlando

## New York

## Boston

## New Jersey

## Miami

## Philadelphia

## Washington

## Central Division

## Cleveland

## Charlotte

## Indiana

## Chicago

## Milwaukee

## Golden State

## Detroit

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

## Midwest Division

## Utah

## Houston

## San Antonio

## Denver

## Dallas

## Minnesota

## Pacific Division

## Phoenix

## Seattle

## Portland

## Sacramento

## Golden State

## L.A. Clippers

## WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

## Charlotte

## L.A. Clippers

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## Soccer

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## Soccer

## English League Cup

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## OBSERVER

## Art, Debt, Slumber

By Russell Baker

NEW YORK — The instant people start talking about the deficit my eyelids droop, and off I go in the arms of Morpheus.

The same goes for the late Kenneth Clark's famous 5,000-hour-long documentary, "Civilisation," which was a Christ-mas present. I try hard to watch some every night. It's supposed to be good for you, just as cutting the deficit and eating boring food are supposed to be good for you.

Say this for "Civilisation": It's better to look at than the typical platter of skin-free chicken, salt-free fish and taste-free broccoli served up in yuppie restaurants. What's more, it doesn't assume you're a boob.

The deficit people do. They're now telling us the deficit can be abolished by amending the Constitution to say, "Hereafter the budget must be eternally balanced." Between the late Lord Clark and the sounds of these deficit quacks I haven't slept so thoroughly since giving up Scotch whisky.

Intelligent people raved about "Civilisation" when it was first shown on public television years ago, and its merits are undeniable as long as it's filling the screen with beautiful pictures of the Western world's most glorious art. No truly intelligent person can possibly sleep his way through it.

And here is El Stupido himself, constantly coming awake, chin on chest, lower jaw drooping, groping for the remote control to rewind the tape back through Vermeer — how could any human sleep through Vermeer? — and still be wiser than Rembrandt. Yes, it was right after the astonishing glory of Rembrandt that the comet in.

But why? I think it's the self-assured quality of Lord Clark's voice that does the trick. He is

one of those people who know so much more than you know that they try to make you hate him for it, for being so superior to you that he is absolutely insufferable.

My theory is that the sleep is a defense against yielding to the basest elements of my nature. I doze to avoid acknowledging my own vile envy.

Deficit talk is different. Since early childhood I have heard jeremiads about the deficit leading America to destruction. As a door-to-door peddler of slick magazines, I first inhaled this bleak message in Saturday Evening Post editorials of the 1930s.

There has been no change in the music since then. The deficit has grown and grown, politicians have warned and warned, the nation has grown richer and richer. I have heard this old song from my cradle. It no longer stirs me like "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Now it's just a tired old lullaby.

Politicians of course have always tried to terrify people about it, rarely with much success until Ross Perot came along. Now it's the big seller of the month, which is why we have this cynical proposal to constitutionally amend it out of existence. Why cynical? Because it assumes you can fool most of the people some of the time.

The scheme is to amend the Constitution to say, basically, "Deficit budgets, go away." Every mother's statesman son and daughter can vote for it and be an instant people's hero, assured that by the time the amendment takes effect it will be another generation's problem to figure out how to wipe out enough vital government services to fulfill 1995's bookkeeping dream.

If this works, we may next see the crime problem disposed of with a constitutional amendment ordering it to cease.

New York Times Service

## Gina Lollobrigida Tends the Legend's Image

By Mitchell Owens  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Every man in the room is straightening his tie and squaring his shoulders. Forget the wives, the kids, the plates of steaming linguine. It's a Saturday afternoon on the Upper East Side at Gino Italian, where the sauces are as red as the wallpaper, and Gina Lollobrigida has just walked in, sparking the sort of pandemonium she did in the 1960s, back when her movies were banned in

in the 1969 comedy "Buona Sera, Mrs. Campbell." She will, however, be 68 on July 4.

"It's O.K.," she says. "The age I don't mind." Though more than 25 years of typecasting as a sex symbol weren't half bad. "Halsman said he never saw such a beautiful body of a woman like me," she says proudly, recalling the French photographer whose pictures of her appeared in Life magazine.

**'I think the best of myself is inside, but you can't control that.'**

A glass of house red levitates in homage. The siren of the Tiber, draped to the shins in lavender-dyed silk, returns the salute with the same generous, slightly mocking smile that "La Lollo" flashed in "Frisky," "Beautiful but Dangerous" and "Go Naked in the World."

Baubles like those — movies with high drama and low décolletage — were what transformed a young art student from the mountain town of Subiaco into "the original over-the-top Italian movie star," as Bosley Crowther put it in The New York Times.

Of course, it wasn't all cleavage. "I think the best of myself is inside, but you can't control that," Lollobrigida says with an exaggerated shrug. What she can control, at least this afternoon, is the lighting.

"Is better from the front," she says to a photographer. The photographer pleads for a profile. Lollobrigida insists. Gently at first, then firmly. And more firmly again. The lights are moved, front and center.

"The light can give you 20 years more or 20 years less," she explains. "The light is better than a plastic surgeon." This from a woman who looks scarcely older than when she starred

But what about political correctness, the objectification of women? Anita Hill? She raises a boldly penciled eyebrow that reaches the apex of her inky arched eyebrows. "Why should I be offended?" Lollobrigida says. "It's not an insult." Besides, she adds, thumping the chest that launched a million daydreams, "I am strong. I can take care of myself."

While other symbols of postwar pulchritude have gone into seclusion, become anti-vivisectionists or begun hawkking designer eyeglasses, Lollobrigida continues to tend her image with a fully sequined sense of responsibility to the legend.

In Japan, China, Iran and points beyond, she is still mobbed by autograph hounds. A Syrian general has published poems proclaiming her beauty. Dolce & Gabbana paid homage by emblazoning her name all over one of its hip fashion collections. And when Lollobrigida arrived at the Rizzoli bookshop in New York to sign copies of her new book, a collection of photographs taken by her over 14 years, young men were hanging out the windows of the building next store shouting, "We love you, Gina!"

No one is important "just because people stare at you with their eyes," says Lollobrigida, who nonetheless appreciates the attention. "You can never forget that. Success is something that goes up and goes down. I was hungry, I was rich, the life changed again, and now I'm not rich, but I still have my mind."

She also has an 8-month-old grand-



Carmine Gennaro

Lollobrigida and admirers at Gino Italian in New York.

son, Dimitri, whose birth was considered headline news by the Italian press. She still isn't certain whether to be delighted or depressed. "He is so much like my son it is unbelievable, but I no like to be grandmother," she says, shaking a fist, her voice rising in mock anguish. It has been decided: the baby will call her Gina.

There is also a potential movie deal in the works, promising a juicy "old prostitute" role like the one that jump-started Simone Signoret's career. But she admits that she would rather have a dependable man than a movie.

Lollobrigida was married for 17 years to Milko Skofic, who was a Yugoslav medical student when they were wed in 1949 and later became her manager. They had one son, also named Milko. Then there was a broken engagement to a New York real estate heir, George Kaufman. And she also declined to marry Christiana Barnard, the pioneering heart surgeon.

She is proud that she has never stopped working: European movies, "The Love Boat," guest spots on "Fallon Crest." She has recently taken up

sculpture. (One piece was the official Italian entry at the Seville World Expo in 1992). She also spends hours in the darkroom on her photography and has turned out five books since 1973. "I may not be Carlier-Bresson, but I can do something good."

And wherever she goes, fame keeps calling. "Oh, I forgot the pictures," she moans as two waiters and a busboy approach, pens in hand. The 8-by-10 glossy that she brought all the way from Rome have been left behind at a friend's apartment on the Upper East Side. "I always carry pictures in my purse, because they are helpful," she continues.

Oh, well. They hand her three blank dinner checks, and she signs those instead.

And at the end of the afternoon, as she nestles amid a bank of graying men at the bar and the photographer closes in, La Lollo reminds everyone what being a star is all about. "Don't look at the camera!" she says with an earthy chuckle. "Look at me! It's much better to look at me."

## PEOPLE

## The Oscars: Early Night For David Letterman?

And the No. 1 reason for watching the Oscars this year is: David Letterman. The talk-show host has agreed to emcee the 67th annual Academy Awards on March 27. "We're changing the format this year. The whole show will be 40 minutes long, and we'll be giving away cars!" Letterman quipped. Last year the host was Whoopi Goldberg, who can't return because she will be working on a film.

Michael Jackson has ordered his lawyers to sue newspapers, TV shows and anyone else spreading "vicious lies and rumors" claiming there was a videotaped sexual encounter between him and a 13-year-old boy. The Sun and Today newspapers in London carried reports last weekend about the purported video, and it was picked up by several American TV shows. "Enough is enough!" Jackson said in a statement.

Prince Paul, 27, son of the deposed King Constantine of Greece, will marry Marie-Chantal Miller, 26, the daughter of a British retail executive, in London in July.

The British novelist Martin Amis has clinched a two-book deal worth an estimated \$500,000 (\$780,000) after hiring an American literary agent known as "The Jackal." After weeks of haggling, Amis hired Andrew Wylie and switched publishers, to HarperCollins, from Jonathan Cape, for his novel "The Information" and a collection of short stories.

Liverpool University plans to award Arthur C. Clarke, author of "2001: A Space Odyssey," an honorary degree beamed through space — the university will send the degree to Sri Lanka, where Clarke lives, by satellite.

## WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by Accu-Weather.

Europe				Asia			
Today	Low	High	Low	Today	Low	High	Low
Algeria	17-22	7-14	18-24	9-18	31-48	21-70	22-36
Amsterdam	6-13	3-7	14-21	1-10	2-9	12-19	1-10
Ankara	4-29	17-21	5-21	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Athens	10-20	6-13	14-21	1-10	2-9	12-19	1-10
Bangkok	10-20	27-35	13-26	7-16	30-36	23-33	7-16
Belgrade	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Berlin	2-15	1-11	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Buenos Aires	6-13	3-7	14-21	1-10	2-9	12-19	1-10
Buenos Aires	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Cairo	17-22	7-14	18-24	9-18	31-48	21-70	22-36
Caracas	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Chengdu	2-15	1-11	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Columbus	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Cuba	17-22	7-14	18-24	9-18	31-48	21-70	22-36
Dallas	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Edinburgh	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Fukuoka	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Geneva	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Hankow	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Hong Kong	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Houston	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
London	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Los Angeles	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Madrid	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Manchester	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Mexico City	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Moscow	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Mumbai	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Nairobi	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Paris	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Peking	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rangoon	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rio de Janeiro	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rome	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Sao Paulo	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Seoul	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Shanghai	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Singapore	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Sofia	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Taipei	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Tokyo	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Urumqi	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Yokohama	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27

Latin America				North America			
Today	Low	High	Low	Today	Low	High	Low
Buenos Aires	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Caracas	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Cuba	17-22	7-14	18-24	9-18	31-48	21-70	22-36
Dallas	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Edinburgh	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Fukuoka	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Geneva	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Hankow	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Hong Kong	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Houston	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
London	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Los Angeles	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Madrid	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Manchester	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Mexico City	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Moscow	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Mumbai	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Nairobi	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Paris	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Peking	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rangoon	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rio de Janeiro	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Rome	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Sao Paulo	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Seoul	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Shanghai	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Singapore	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Sofia	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Taipei	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Tokyo	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Urumqi	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27
Yokohama	1-11	4-23	6-25	3-27	19-26	14-21	3-27

Resort	Depth L	Mt. U Passes	Res. Pistes	Snow State	Last Snow	Comments
<b>Andorra</b>						
País de la Casa	60-150	Good	Open	Fair	5-1	Moderate ice and ruts on open
Soldeu	50-100	Good	Open	Fair	5-1	Generally good piste during
<b>Austria</b>						
Ischgl	100-200	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	All lifts closed after snowfalls
Kitzbühel	30-140	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Heavy snow, great prospects
Obergurgl	60-180	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	40-50% closed due to snow wind
Saalfeld	110-170	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Fresh snow at all levels
St. Anton	90-270	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	5-35 lifts high avalanche risk
<b>Canada</b>						
Whistler	100-265	Good	Open	Fair	12-1	20-25 lifts open great skiing
<b>France</b>						
Alpe d'Huez	100-195	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Lots of fresh snow, avalanche risk
Les Arcs	105-260	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Extreme avalanche risk
Avoriaz	90-185	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	20-40 lifts open risk period
Chamonix	65-250	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Massive avalanche risk
Courchevel	125-205	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Safety conditions at all levels
Les Deux Alpes	73-265	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Heavy snow - wind limiting skiing
Megève	60-150	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Storm settling - great prospects
Méribel	100-200	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	20-50 lifts, avalanche danger
Morzine	50-180	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Great skiing on open runs
La Plagne	135-250	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Most upper slopes closed
Tignes	130-220	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Restricted skiing due to snowfall
Val d'Isère	100-230	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Recovery after opening after storm
Val Thorens	160-210	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	Re-opening prospects when safe
<b>Germany</b>						
Garmisch	45-230	Fair	Open	Fair	12-1	High avalanche risk, 21-38 lifts
Oberstdorf	65-250	Good	Open	Fair	12-1	Heavy lifts closed by heavy snow